

The Mining Journal

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE:

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

No. 294.—Vol. XI.]

LONDON: SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1841.

[PRICE 6D.]

STANNARIES OF CORNWALL. IN THE VICE-WARDEN'S COURT. BORLASE AND OTHERS v. THOMAS.

WHEREAS the Vice-Warden did, on the 27th day of January last, order that a sale be made of (amongst other things) the machinery and materials upon, and belonging to, Wheal Rose Mine, in the parish of Sithney, within the said stannaries, under the direction of the registrar in the manner that the proceeds of such sale should be applied by the said registrar in the manner directed by the decree, in the above mentioned cause.—Notice is hereby given, that, pursuant to the said decree, a PUBLIC AUCTION will be held at WHEAL ROSE MINE aforesaid, on Tuesday, 24th of April next, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon, for selling either together, or in lots, the undermentioned MINING MACHINERY, MATERIALS, and other effects—viz., a capstan and shears, two horse whips, with shaft tackle, twenty fathoms of ladder, a quantity of debrature, whole, half, and quarter balk planks, &c., a timber shed, three pieces of Mamel rod timber, three large iron blocks, a large quantity of wrought and cast-iron, smith's bellows, anvil, vice, grindstone, carpenter's bench, winns, kibbles, hilt, chests, cisterns, barrows, a quantity of brick, nails, about twenty dozen of candles, counting house furniture, &c., &c.

For viewing the same, application may be made at the mine, and for further particulars (if by letter post-paid) to Mr. T. P. Tyacke, solicitor, Helstone; or to Messrs Paul and Roberts, solicitors, Truro.

Dated the 31st day of March.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.—VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE AND COAL MINES.

TO BE SOLD, BY AUCTION, by Mr. M. WHITTINGTON.

(By order of the mortgagee, under a power of sale, at the Castle Inn, Neath, on Thursday, the 22nd day of April next, at Two o'clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will be then produced, unless previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given, all that MESSUAGE or TENEMENT, FARM AND LANDS, commonly called or known as NANSTALLON, otherwise NANSTALLON, situated and being in the several parishes of Ystradgynlais, in the county of Brecon, and Cadloglan, Neath, in the county of Glamorgan, containing, by estimation, 160 acres, or thereabouts.

The situation of this property is well adapted for the erection of ironworks, having a plentiful supply of coal and iron ore upon the estate, with the command of two fine streams of water. There are six seams of coal, containing, in the aggregate, forty feet, or thereabouts; the seams of iron ore are also very productive, and have been proved to be of a very rich quality. This estate is also of great value, considered as the key to all the minerals under the Drim Mountain, several hundred acres in extent. The property is situated six miles from the Neath Canal, at Aberdulais, and three from the Swansea Canal, at Vaywardwin, to which place there is a ready communication by a railroad, which passes through the property, to the neighbouring quarries of limestone. There is also a valuable right of common upon the Drim Mountain attached to the estate. A small piece of the waste ground, containing sixty perches, or thereabouts, in extent, has been let for a term of which eighty-seven years are now unexpired, at the annual rent of £1, and the estate will be sold subject thereto. An abstract of the powers under which this property is sold will be produced at the time of sale.

For further particulars, and to treat for the purchase, by private contract, apply to Mr. Montague Grover, solicitor, Cardiff; or to the auctioneer, Neath.—All letters to be prepaid.

TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, that extensive coal field, known as the HAZELRIGG COAL MINES, together with the long established, and valuable current-going colliery, called FAWDON COLLIERY, situated about three miles north of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, with all the fixed and moveable stock thereon.

The coal, which is the High Main, or Wall's End seam, is of excellent quality for domestic purposes, and has been well known in the London and coast markets for the last twenty-six years as "Newmarket's Wall's End." A new winning was completed between one and two years ago, and a pumping engine erected thereon, considerably more than competent for the fullest requirements of the colliery, and an outfall will be necessary in the winning of new portions of coal to this colliery for a long period of years. The great extent of the Hazelrigg coal field, comprising about 4000 acres, affords the opportunity of establishing other valuable collieries.

For further particulars, application may be made to Mr. James Easton, the colliery viewer, to Mr. Thomas Forster, Hazelrigg colliery, to John Wilkinson, Esq., solicitor, Hull; to Messrs. Bell, Broadrick, and Bell, solicitors, Bow Church-yard, London; or to Messrs. Cary and Jobling, solicitors, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Newcastle, November, 1840.

LEAD MINES TO LET.—WANLOCKHEAD LEAD MINES.

MINES, in the parish of Bangor, and county of Dumfries, the property of His Grace the Duke of Buccleugh and Queensberry.—The present lease of these valuable mines has been extended for another year, to allow time for the arrangements necessary in settling with the present tenants. It will in consequence expire on the 14th day of August, 1842, instead of 1841, as formerly advertised, and the lease of the land held by the present lessees, in connection with their mining operations, will expire at the term of Whitmasse, 1842. The proprietor is now ready to treat for a new lease, to commence from and after these dates. Any company or individual enterprise, acquainted with such matters, and possessing an ample capital, will probably find these works well worthy of their attention.

For further particulars apply to William Maxwell, Esq., Chamberlain on the Estate of Queensberry, Dalkeith; to Messrs. Gibson and Home, W. S. 17, Charlotte-street, Edinburgh; or Messrs. Oddie, Forster, and Lumsley, solicitors, Carey street, London.

WANTED, a second-hand CONDENSING STEAM-WHIM, or WINDING ENGINE, of from eighteen to twenty-four inches diameter in the cylinder, with fly-wheel, boiler, &c., complete, and having a cage with a vertical axle. Application, with full particulars, to be addressed to Mr. H. English, 57, New Broad-street, London; or to Mr. H. Thomas, Connerve Mines, Rathfriland, Ireland.

BLACK JACK.—FOR SALE, at Moorwater, near Liskeard, at the head of the Liskeard and Looe Canal, about TWO HUNDRED TONS of BLACK JACK, from Wheal Gill Mine. For price and other particulars, apply to Crouch and Dymond, Penzance.—Penzance, March 26.

BLAENANON IRON AND COAL COMPANY.—NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the proprietors of this company will be held on Friday, the 23rd inst., at One for Two o'clock, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, which meeting will be made special for the purpose of confirming the resolutions passed at the Extraordinary Meeting of the 6th instant, for increasing the permanent capital of the company.

W. H. WEST, Sec.

Blananon offices, 4, Pancras-lane, April 7.

COCAES SCRIP.—The following are the numbers of 102 scrip certificates FORFEITED for non-payment of the third instalment—Nos. 164 to 168, 642 to 654, 686, 711, 747 to 777, 808 to 867, 1013, 1021, 1022, 1042 to 1046, 1099 to 1193.

By order of the board.

WILLIAM MARINER, Secretary.

National Brazilian Mining Association, 26, Throgmorton street, April 5.

CORNWALL GREAT UNITED MINES.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be held at the George and Vulture Taverns, Cornhill, London, on Thursday, the 20th instant, at Five o'clock precisely.

Manchester, April 5.

GREAT WHEAL CHARLOTTE MINING ASSOCIATION.

The resolutions for raising additional capital, having been read upon at the Special General Meeting held for that purpose, on the 10th of March, and confirmed at another Special General Meeting on the 20th of March, the directors therefore give notice, that every holder of Great Wheal Charlotte Mining shares is entitled to the pre-emption of two new shares for every five old ones, on the PAYMENT OF FIVE SHILLINGS per share, on or before the 14th April, and the same sum on the 10th May, the 20th June, and on the 31st July next, subject to profits, rules, and regulations, of all other shares on which Fifty Shillings per share has been paid.

Leicester Promenade Hill, March 10.

POLBREEN TIN AND COPPER MINING COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be held on Wednesday, the 10th of May, at One for Two o'clock precisely.—45, Finsbury square, London, April 5.

THE PATENT SAFETY FUSE, FOR BLASTING ROCKS IN MINES, QUARRIES, AND FOR SUBMARINE OPERATIONS.—This article affords the safest, cheapest, and most expeditious mode of effecting this very hazardous operation. From many testimonials to its usefulness with which the Manufacturers have been favoured from every part of the kingdom, they send the following letter, recently received from John Taylor, Esq., F.R.S., &c., &c.

"I am very glad to hear that my recommendations have been of any service to you. They have been given from a thorough conviction of the great advantages of the Safety Fuse, and I am quite willing that you should employ my name as evidence of this."

Manufactured and sold by the PATENTERS, ROCKFORD, SMITH, and DAY, & CO., Cambridge, Cornwall.

WANTED, in a locomotive and other engine manufactory, in one of the principal towns in the kingdom, two respectable Youths as APPRENTICES. As the utmost care and attention will be bestowed in instructing them in every branch necessary to a full and competent knowledge of the business, a commensurate premium will be expected.—Letters addressed "Mechanics," and left at the office of this Journal, will be attended to after the 1st May.

ANDREW SMITH'S PATENT WIRE ROPES, for standing rigging, lightning conductors, shopping of blocks, mining, railway, and general purposes; about half the size and weight of hempen ropes, and 25 per cent. cheaper. Testimonials to that effect, with specimens, may be seen, and every information obtained, at the office, 74, Old Broad-street, city; 69, Princes-street, Leicester-square; manufactory, 31, Wall, Poplar; and also of the following agents—
For, Hawkins, and Hickling, New-street, Birmingham.
Robertson and Co., 12, Gorse Place, Liverpool.
Matthews Dunn, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Joseph Bothway, Plymouth.
John Thompson and Co., Wigan.
T. F. Tregellas, Truro.
Thomas Mooney and Son, Dublin.
Cotes and Young, Belfast.
James Kibble and Co., Glasgow.
James Gunn, Leith.

This rope has been in use for standing rigging in her Majesty's Navy, and in a great number of merchant ships, for upwards of five years, and is giving the highest satisfaction; the rope is also employed in various mines and railways in different parts of the kingdom, but reference is especially made to the Blackwall Railroad, where its capabilities have been most severely tested, for although it has been in use upwards of eight months, and has travelled a distance nearly equal to the circumference of the earth, it is, to all appearance, as good as when first applied.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF LONDON, No. 3, Moorgate-street, Lothbury, and No. 4, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

Capital £2,000,000, in 2000 shares of £1000 each.

DIRECTORS.
The Right Hon. Lord Peter Thomas Barnwell, Esq., Edward Osenford, Esq., Hon. William B. Peter John Taylor, Esq., George Rennie, jun., Esq., Geo. Alfred Musket, Esq., M.P., Edward Osenford, Esq., George Rennie, jun., Esq., John Shewell, Esq., Joseph Travers, Esq., R. Walker, Esq., M.P., Thomas Wyse, Esq., M.P., Charles Weld, Esq., Manager—Alfred R. Cuthill.

Solicitors—Messrs. Amory, Sewell, and Moore, and Messrs. Norris and Sons.

The directors having purchased the banking premises in Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, lately occupied by Messrs. Wright and Co., hereby give notice, that they COMMENCED BUSINESS on the 31st ult. A committee of three of the directors will attend daily in Henrietta-street.

Accounts of parties received and kept on the plan generally adopted by London bankers. Parties having current accounts with this bank have the advantage of transferring any surplus balance to a deposit account bearing interest; and sums of money are received on deposit from parties not keeping current accounts, at such rate of interest and for such periods as may be agreed upon.

An arrangement has been made which ensures the strictest secrecy as to all accounts kept at this bank.

The agency of country and foreign banks undertaken on such terms as may be agreed upon. Purchases and sales of British and foreign securities, &c., effected, dividends received, and every description of banking business transacted.

NORTH KENT RAILWAY.—EVERY INFORMATION relative to this undertaking may be OBTAINED by application at the office, No. 47, Lombard-street, between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock daily.

OPENING.—GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND RAILWAY.

The public are informed that the GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND RAILWAY was OPENED FROM YORK TO DARLINGTON, for public traffic, on Wednesday, the 1st of March.

The trains will depart at the following hours:—

FROM DARLINGTON TO YORK.

5 45 a.m.—Taking passengers for London, Derby, Birmingham, Sheffield, and Manchester.

8 a.m.—Taking passengers for London, Derby, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

12 30 p.m.—Taking passengers for Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

3 p.m.—Mail, taking passengers for London, Derby, Leicester, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

6 p.m.—Taking passengers to York.

FROM YORK TO DARLINGTON.

8 a.m.—Bringing passengers from York.

7 20 a.m.—Mail, bringing passengers from London, Leicester, Derby, & Sheffield.

9 35 a.m.—Bringing passengers from Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

12 30 p.m.—Bringing passengers from Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

4 p.m.—Bringing passengers from London, Birmingham, Derby, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Selby, and Hull.

Until further notice, passengers will only be booked as far as York, where the carriages are changed.

Until the 6th of April, 1841, the London mail trains will leave York at 8 15 a.m., instead of the hours stated in the time table.

On Sundays only the mail trains run.

FARES BETWEEN YORK AND DARLINGTON.

Passengers—1st class, 12s.; 2d class, 8s.

Carriages—On two wheels, 10s.; on four wheels, 16s.

Horses—One, 2s.; two, 3s.; three, 4s.

Parasels riding in their own carriages, and children under seven years of age, at lower rates.

Carriages and horses must be at the station a quarter of an hour before the departure of the train, and, to prevent disappointment, previous notice should be given to the station.

The company will not be responsible for luggage, unless it is booked and paid for according to its value; and passengers are particularly requested to have their names and addresses fully marked thereon, and to satisfy themselves that it is deposited on the carriages.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.

TIME OF DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL OF THE TRAINS.

Leave Newcastle and Carlisle. Arrive at Carlisle.

Mixed Mail. Half-past 5 morning. Quarter-past 9

Quick. 9 o'clock. 12 o'clock

Mixed. 12 o'clock. Half-past 3

Quick Mail. Half-past 2 afternoon. Half-past 5

Mixed. 5 o'clock. 8 o'clock

Leave Carlisle. Arrive at Newcastle and Carlisle.

Mixed Mail. Half-past 5 morning. Quarter-past 9

Quick. 9 o'clock. 12 o'clock

Mixed. 12 o'clock. Half-past 3

Quick Mail. Half-past 2 afternoon. Half-past 5

Mixed. 5 o'clock. 8 o'clock

SUNDAYS.

Leave Newcastle. Arrive at Carlisle.

Quick. 9 o'clock morning. Quarter-past 12

Mixed. 5 o'clock afternoon. Quarter-past 3

Leave Carlisle. Arrive at Newcastle and Carlisle.

Quick. 9 o'clock morning. Quarter-past 9

Mixed. 12 o'clock. Half-past 3

Quick Mail. Half-past 2 afternoon. Half-past 5

Mixed. 5 o'clock. 8 o'clock

SUNDAYS.

Leave Newcastle. Arrive at Carlisle.

Quick. 9 o'clock morning. Quarter-past 12

Mixed. 5 o'clock afternoon. Quarter-past 3

FARES.

Quick Train—Close carriages, 11s.; open ditto, 9s. 6d.

Mixed Train—Close carriages, 10s.; open ditto, 7s. 6d.

The doors will be closed five minutes before the time of starting.

Seven coaches run daily between Carlisle and Lancaster (passing through Penrith, which is the direct route for the lake), for Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and London. Seven boats ply regularly between Carlisle and Liverpool, also between Carlisle and Belfast. Coaches daily for Merseyport, Whitehaven, &c.

Passengers leaving Newcastle by the Twelve o'clock train will reach Carlisle in time for the Port Patrick mail for Ireland, by way of Dumfries, &c., and also for the mails to Glasgow and Edinburgh, where they arrive at a quarter past One and morning; and passengers leaving Edinburgh for Glasgow by the mail at eight for Carlisle will arrive there in time for the Five o'clock train, and reach Newcastle at One o'clock, &c.—Close sailing, in either case, nearly a day, as compared with travelling by the ordinary route.

Passes may be secured by the morning and evening mails, and by the North British coach for Lancaster, on application at the Railway Station, Newcastle.

By order, JAMES ALDERMAN, Clerk to the Company.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, March 24.

GEOLOGY OF PARIS.

At the last quarterly meeting of the Manchester Geological Society, Mr. James Heywood read the following very interesting geological description of the Paris basin, written, at his request, by the Rev. H. L. Jones, M.A., late Fellow of Magdalen College, Cambridge, and now resident in Paris. The paper was illustrated by an outline map of the basin, and by geological sections, with a number of specimens containing fossils brought thence, and contrasted with others from the London basin. Some of these were very perfect, especially the volutes from both basins. There were also on the table, as having some connection with the subject of basins, two sectional models (coloured), one of the Isle of Wight, and the other a geological sectional model of Alum Bay and Headra-hill, Isle of Wight. There was also the *Carte Geologique des Environs de Paris*, par MM. Cuvier et Brongniart.

We give the introduction of the paper:—

Independently of the steep banks, quarries, and of other means which present themselves of examining the various formations of the Paris basin, from the rocks themselves, the geological student will find, in the capital, ample means for pursuing his researches, not only in the galleries of the Garden of Plants, but also in those of the school of Mines. In the mineralogical and geological division of the Garden of Plants, the beds of the Paris basin are well illustrated, both in the minerals and also in the fossils which they contain; and, in the school of Mines, the departments of the Seine, the Seine and Oise, and the Seine and Marne, have each their separate sets of geological cases allotted to them, in which all their contents are exemplified by very large specimens. The school of Mines also contains the beautiful and extensive collection of Messrs. Cuvier and Brongniart, which was formed by them when they compiled their elaborate work on the geology of this district. The great liberality shown to all students, and to foreign students in particular, and the very complete manner in which the Paris basin has been illustrated, render it one of the most instructive districts that can be examined by the practical and theoretical geologist. To this we may add, that the great work of Cuvier and Brongniart on the Paris basin contains nearly all the facts that are necessary to be known concerning it, and that very complete and authentic collections of specimens of all the strata of the Paris basin, and of the principal fossils, may be purchased at moderate prices from M. Guérin, chemist and mineralogist, No. 17, Quai St. Michel, in Paris.

The entire extent of the formations comprising what may be called the Paris basin, or rather the entire series of strata which are so strikingly developed in its central portions, would be determined by a line from N.E. to S.W., commencing at Laon, and ending at Blois; and by another from S.E. to N.W., commencing at Comen, on the Loire, and ending at Gisors, in Normandy. The rivers that carry off the waters of this district are the Seine, cutting it from S.E. to N.W. at right angles to its principal geographical axis, into which the Loing and the Essonne, inconsiderable streams, run on the south, and the Marne and Oise, much larger rivers, on the north. The chalk formation surrounds the northern portions of the Paris basin, lapping round it like a cap; while the southern parts are enclosed within the green sand and Wealden sand formations. It would seem as if a sort of gulf had been formed in the chalk and the green sand series within which the deposits of the Paris beds had subsequently taken place; and in this circumstance a remarkable analogy is presented with the related formation of the London basin, the Isle of Wight basin, and others of similar geological antiquity in various parts of Europe. The term "basin," however, when applied to all the Paris formations, in their full extent, is used in a very large sense. By far the greater part of the district above mentioned consists of a rather elevated table land, flat on its surface, cut into valleys only where recent streams occur; and, geographically speaking, constituting a rather arid tract. The greatest elevation is about 500 feet above the level of the sea. It is only near Paris that a depression of any considerable extent occurs.

In the immediate vicinity of the capital all the formations are developed in a manner the most instructive and the most convenient for the geological inquirer. There numerous isolated hills expose the series nearly from the highest to the lowest beds; and, from the great extent to which some of the strata have been cut into for economical purposes, the whole of the formations have been explored in the fullest detail and most satisfactory manner. The well-known hill of Montmartre, immediately north of Paris, presents a nearly complete section of three out of the five principal series into which the formations have been divided, and, from the precipitous cuttings made by the quarries, enables the student to examine each stratum, as if in a geological museum. On the heights between Versailles and St. Cloud occur the upper freshwater beds, the highest division of the series; and within a mile and a half from them, below Meudon, on the banks of the Seine, the chalk, which lies under the whole basin, crops out, and is extensively quarried. Along the whole course of the river are most extensive formations of diluvial and alluvial origin; and the table land, which occupies the principal portion of the district, throws out long promontories or arms into the main valleys, which are at once strongly characterizing and highly picturesque features of the country. The elevated land which, on the southern side, separates the basin of the Seine from that of the Loire, or rather which forms part of both, is called the Bresse. As far as the Paris beds are concerned, this land has two principal water-sheds, one towards the N.W. looking to the river Eure; the other towards the E. and N.E. looking to the Seine. This land is principally covered by the sandy beds of the upper marine series; its edges are exceedingly indented, and many outlying portions stretch along its N.E. side; these form the hills at Fontainebleau to the S. and S.W. of Paris, and as far as Montes. The northern highland of the basin is a vast plateau, or series of plateaus, formed of the great limestones of the lower marine series, locally termed the *calcaire grossier*. Between the two, however, another formation of the general series is extensively developed; the second freshwater beds, including the siliceous limestones and the gypsaceous strata with their associated beds, and extending from the neighbourhood of Fontainebleau to that of Beaumont on the Oise. The lowest beds of the series are those of the chalk, which not only appear on the outskirts of the basin, but also come into daylight at various points along the river-courses of the centre, and which, as has been proved by various borings, underlie the whole. Above the chalk occurs a freshwater formation, principally known by the name of the plastic clay formation, with some few associated beds. Next comes, in order of superposition, the great limestone (*calcaire grossier*) formation, of marine origin, with associated beds of marine fossiliferous sandstones. These, in the S.E. part of the basin are either exceedingly thin, or else disappear altogether, and are replaced by the second freshwater formation, including the siliceous limestones and also the gypsaceous series. It is only rarely that the siliceous limestone is found overlying the *calcaire grossier*. In general it replaces it, but, since it does overlie it in some instances, the order of superposition is thereby determined. Associated with, and also above the gypsaceous strata, comes the freshwater marl. Next occurs the uppermost marine series, which is principally composed of immense beds of sand that lie on the Bresse country, with very remarkable beds of opaliferous beds in certain localities (though they themselves contain no fossils in situ), and with sub-siliceous sandstones above them. The last geological series in an ascending order, is the upper freshwater, being the third in the basin, and including the siliceous limestones, so well known in Europe. Above all occur various diluvial and vegetable beds.

Messrs. Cuvier and Brongniart make the following remarks respecting the formation of the Paris basin:—"On considering all the strata from the chalk upwards, we figure to ourselves first a sea, which deposits on its bottom an immense mass of chalk and mollusciferous animals of particular kinds. This precipitation of chalk, and the shells which accompany it, stop abruptly; the sea retires—waters of another nature, and very probably analogous to our freshwater, succeed it; and all the varieties of the marine and are filled with reeds, remnants of land plants, and remains of shells living in freshwater. Some, however, another sea, producing new kinds of inhabitants, and feeding a prodigious quantity of shell fish, all different from those of the chalk, returns to cover the clay, its lignites, and its shells, and upon such a bottom as this deposits immense banks, composed in great part of the testaceous coverings of these new molluscs. By degrees the production of shells diminishes, and at length ceases altogether; the sea retires, and the ground is covered with freshwater lakes; alternate strata of marl and gypsum are formed, which envelope the remains of the animals contained in these lakes, and the bones of those that lived on their banks. The sea comes back again; it supports at first some species of brachioi and bivalved shells—these shells disappear, and are replaced by oysters. A long interval of time then elapses, during which a great mass of sand is deposited. It must be supposed, either that an organized body lived at that period in this sea, or that their remains have been completely destroyed, because no remains of them is to be found in this sand. The various productions, however, of this third sea appear at length; and we find on the summit of Montmartre, Montmoulin, and Montreuil le Hainois, the same shells as were found in the marine above the

gypsum, and which, though in reality different from those of the calcareous, have, nevertheless, a strong similarity to them. At length the sea retreats entirely for the third time—like a pool of freshwater comes in its stead, and cover, with the remains of their inhabitants, almost all the summits of the escarpments, and the surfaces even of some of the plains that separate them."

The paper then proceeds at great length to give in detail a great mass of interesting facts relative to the five principal formations already noticed—the chalk, the first freshwater formation, the great limestone (calcaire grossier), or lower marine formation; the siliceous limestone (calcaire siliceux); the gypsiferous formation; including the gypsiferous marls, freshwater and marine; the upper marine sands and sandstones; and upper freshwater (or highest) formation in the Paris basin—concluding with notices of the diluvial and alluvial formations; and to the paper was appended a list of the fossils of all the formations containing any. We cannot attempt even an abstract of these, by far the greatest portions of the paper, but must content ourselves with giving a few interesting facts mentioned in the course of these notices. Referring to the chalk formation, it is stated that—

"A very satisfactory measurement of its thickness has been obtained at Paris in the plain of Grenelle, where a boring has for some time been going on in the yard of the great slaughter-house for an Artesian well.—(Since completed). The total depth attained by the boring instrument is 500 metres, or about 1670 English feet. * * * At Montrouge, south of Paris, as also at Arcueil and Grignon, the plastic clay, which is red, is extracted from beneath the calcareous grossier, by means of wells, sunk through the floors of the immense quarries that exist there, and is largely used for pottery. * * * This series (the calcareous grossier) forms the large beds south of Paris, out of which all the building stone of the capital is quarried; and there are few formations in the world which have been so well examined, and the nature of which is so well known. * * * One of the most striking characteristics of this part of the series (the lower strata of the calcareous grossier) is the extraordinary number of fossil shells which it contains, most of them so well preserved, that even their nacreous (pearly) lustre remains, and those shells that are provided with opacities still retain them. (Specimens of shells exhibiting these remarkable proofs of excellent preservation, were upon the table). * * * Near the upper part of this series occurs the bed locally called the 'rock' (la roche), which, from its superior quality, constitutes the best building stone round the capital. * * * At Courbevoie St. Denis (so called because the monks of St. Denis made quarries there, for stone to build their abbey), the upper surface of the highest strata presents long and deeply marked striae, evidently formed by violent erosive action, probably of some strong current; and throughout all the district vertical circular fissures or natural holes occur in the strata, filled with ferruginous clay, and broken or rolled flints. One of the most remarkable spots included in this part of the series, and one of the best known to tourists, is the beautiful valley, or rather elevated plain, of Montmorency, lying between the gypsiferous hills to the north, over which the forest of Montmorency extends, and the narrow ridge of the hills of Franceville, to the S.W. * * * To the south of Paris the calcareous grossier, in nearly its whole thickness, is well developed, though upon only a narrow strip of geographical extent, and stretches from Chissey le Roi to Meudon. The southern part of the capital is built on part of this formation, and the extensive quarries cut into it for building stone for the city has formed the celebrated catacombs. * * * At Villepreux and Grignon, west of Versailles, the beds of the lower part of the series are remarkable for the extraordinary abundance of fossil shells they contain—all in the most perfect preservation. One had in particular, a sandy one, from fifteen to twenty feet thick, is an entire mass of fossils, thrown together pell-mell, and most of them filled with sand, the same as that of which the bed itself is composed. M. Deffrance has enumerated 600 different species of shells from Grignon alone; they may all be found described in the works of Lamarck and Deshayes, on the fossil conchology of the Paris basin. * * * The equivalent of the calcareous grossier in the London basin is what is commonly called the London clay. * * * This rock (the siliceous limestone), when burned for lime, produces it of very excellent quality; and the stone quarried from the thicker and harder beds is used for the higher and decorative purposes of building. It admits of a good polish, and then constitutes a beautiful dove-coloured marble. The columns of the church of Notre Dame de Laetitia, and of the church of the Madeleine at Paris, as well as a great part of the triumphal arch at the Barrière de l'Etoile, are of this material. The rock is so penetrated with siliceous matter, that, if a small portion of it be put into nitric acid, the calcareous portions are eaten away, and a siliceous, reticulated, or spongy mass left, having the appearance of common Parisian millstone. * * * Two remarkable beds of oysters are found among them (the marine marls of the gypsiferous formation); and, what is very extraordinary, are constantly met with over a very wide extent of country. The lower bed contains oysters of a large size, all adhering to each other, just as they were when alive; the upper bed contains oysters of a smaller size, and equally well preserved. These two beds are valuable geological instances of fossils said to be in situ. * * * This formation (the upper marine sands and sandstones) is composed partly of an immensely thick bed of ferruginous and slightly calcareous sand, and partly of thick beds of sandstone, which are most extensively quarried for paving stones, and used not only for the capital, but for the greater part of the roads in this division of France. * * * The characteristic bed of this series (the upper freshwater formation), and what gives it its peculiar features, is the siliceous millstone formation for which it is so celebrated, and which, from its nature and great extent, is nearly unique in the world. * * * It is quarried at numerous points, but especially at La Ferté-sous-Jouarre, and is exported to all parts of Europe as well as to North America. The siliceous millstone is a mass of tolerably pure silica, sometimes blackish, sometimes milky white, sometimes reddish, full of cavities, which again have siliceous films and reticulated divisions within them, like the tissue of bones. All these cavities are either lined or filled with ferruginous or calcareous marl. In general, the more numerous and the smaller the cavities, the better is the quality of the millstone for economical purposes. The precautions used in cutting this formation into circular stones or slabs is very great; and the value of such stone is very considerable—a single millstone, of the first quality, white coloured, not broken into fragments, fetches 1000 francs, or nearly 30*l.*, and a pair of common stones are usually sold at from 12*l.* to 20*l.* The square or broken pieces of the rock are bound together by iron bands into circular millstones, and these alone are the kind exported; the unbroken millstones never leave the country. The quarries at La Ferté-sous-Jouarre are known to have been worked for this stone upwards of 400 years. * * * On the S.E. side of the plain of St. Denis, in the cuttings made for the Canal de l'Oise, a small piece of rising ground was cut through to a considerable depth, and laid open several strata of argillaceous marls, under which was a thick bed of vegetable earth, at the bottom of which lay the immense deposit of the remains of ancient, and, in many cases, extinct mammoths, which formed the groundwork for Cuvier's elaborate researches on fossil osteology. * * * The alluvial districts are to be found all along the course of the river; but they have not been so much studied as their importance merits. In the valley of Escomme are peat beds; and at Chateau, near St. Germain, large trunks of trees have been found, deep in the soil of islands, now in the middle of the river. In the island which once existed in the Seine, where now the tobacco manufactory of Gosselin, in Paris, stands, there was found, in 1801, an ancient canoe. In general it may be said, that the alluvial and diluvial deposits of the Seine, the Marne, and the Oise, have not been sufficiently studied; and as M. Cuvier and Brongniart observe, there is enough in these formations to occupy a careful geologist for years."

FOSSIL RAIN.—It is singular as may appear the notion that the impressions of rain should be recognizable, and be recognized on the surfaces of stratified rocks, the opinion is held by some eminent geologists, on the evidence of specimens of new red sandstone taken from the Storeton Quarries, near Liverpool. In March, 1833, Mr. Cunningham, to whose researches in the Storeton Quarries we are indebted for much of our knowledge of the foot-prints of Chirotheria and other ancient animals, communicated a paper on the subject to the Geological Society of London. * * * In examining some of the slabs of stone extracted at the depth of above thirty feet, Mr. Cunningham observed, that their under surface was thickly covered with minute hemispherical projections, or casts in relief of circular pits in the immediately adjacent layers of clay. The origin of these marks, he is of opinion, must be ascribed to showers of rain, which fell upon an argillaceous beach exposed by the retreating tide, and their preservation in the filling up of the indentations by sand. On the same slabs are impressions of the feet of small reptiles, which appear to have passed over the clay previously to the shower, since the footmarks are also indented with circular pits, but to a less degree; and the difference Mr. Cunningham explains by the pressure of the animal having rendered those portions less readily acted upon. * * * If these impressions on the clay be really the marks of rain or hail (a specimen is before us, and it certainly resembles such impressions, on clay), perhaps the easiest way of comprehending the preservation of them is to suppose dry sand drifted by the wind to have swept over and filled up the foot-prints, rain-pits, and hollows of every kind which the soft argillaceous surface had received.

VULCANIC IN ITALY.—It is stated in letters from Ravenna of the 23rd of last November, that the volcano Gudi had been very active. Although few flames had appeared, the volumes of smoke issuing from the crater were very dense; and a slight fall of clinders had been experienced. The phenomena were most perceptible at Poggio, ten miles from Ravenna, from which place it is said flames were observed. The most remarkable of these volcanic phenomena occurred on the 12th of last November.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

INDEPENDENT WEST MIDDLESEX INSURANCE COMPANY.

HOME CIRCUIT—KINGSTON, APRIL 6.

The disgraceful fraud perpetrated by the individuals composing the above "company," was this day brought before the notice of the court by an action brought by parties who had advanced money to the concern, against an individual named Williams, represented to be an attorney. The action was brought to recover large sums of money, such as 300*l.*, 400*l.*, and 700*l.*

Mr. Platt and Mr. Gurney appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Theiger and Mr. Cressy conducted the case for the defendant.

Mr. PLATT addressed the jury, and said the present action was brought with a view to recover large sums of money, of which the plaintiffs had been defrauded by means of the specious artifices and contrivances of the company with which the defendant was connected. By dint of flattery, prospectuses and promises of great advantages, these unfortunate persons had been induced to part with their little all, and, in many instances, had been reduced to the most hopeless ruin. The learned counsel went on to state, that this company had come before the public offering great advantages for the investment of money, and nothing was neglected that was likely to mislead and defraud the public. The scheme was advertised in every direction, and unhappily it had its effect, for a great number of persons, deceived by the specious pretensions that were put forth, were induced to invest all they possessed in the world with this bubble company, and the consequence had been, as he before stated, their utter ruin. It would be proved that the defendant took a share in this scheme, and he should be able to prove that the whole was a fraud upon the public—that persons were hired at so much per day to sign policies, &c., as directors, and, under these circumstances, the defendant, as he was prepared to contend, was liable to the plaintiffs for the loss they had incurred.

Mr. THEIGER said he could not struggle with the case, and consented to a verdict for the plaintiff.

Mr. PLATT applied for immediate execution.—Lord DENMAN.—Most certainly.

SHEFFIELD AND MANCHESTER RAILWAY—NON-PAYMENT OF CALLS.

LIVERPOOL SPRING ASSIZES—APRIL 7.

THE COMPANY v. ARMSTRONG.—This action was brought by the Sheffield, Ashton under Lyne, and Manchester Railway Company, to recover from Mr. Robert Armstrong the amount of various calls made on the twenty shares he held in the company, amounting to 750*l.* principal, and 36*l.* interest.—Total 786*l.* The defendant pleaded that he was never indebted.

Mr. CRESSWELL, for the plaintiff, said, this was one of the very numerous actions which the company had been compelled to bring, for the purpose of enforcing payment of their calls. The transfer to him was on the 4th of December, 1837, and the register was dated 27th June, 1838, and these calls were made since that time. The 110th section of the company's Act provided, that the company should enter in a book the names of the proprietors of the shares, which book should be sealed with the company's seal, and should afterwards be evidence of the parties being shareholders. The directors had power to make such calls at such periods as they thought fit, provided no call exceeded 10*l.* per share, and that there was an interval of three months between any call. It was necessary, under the Act, to show that the calls had been duly advertised in a newspaper circulating through the counties in which the railway was situated. The defendant had paid the first call of 2*l.* 10*s.* per share, and this claim was for the amount of the subsequent calls, including one on the 9th.

The register was produced, and the name of "Robt. Armstrong, 29th of August, 1838—20 shares," was found in it.

Mr. Stevenson (one of the clerks of the company) read the advertisements for the several calls from different numbers of the *Manchester Guardian*, which were proved to circulate in the four counties of Lancashire, York, Derby, and Chester.—Mr. CRESSWELL, for the defendant, submitted that this was not enough; that the company was bound to publish the call in one or more newspapers published and circulated in each of the four counties.

The jury found for the plaintiffs—damages 786*l.*, costs 40*s.*

THE COMPANY v. VERNY.—This was a precisely similar case, except that the defendant, Mr. George Verny, a shopkeeper and tradesman at Greenwich, had not paid the first or any subsequent call upon his twenty shares.—The formal proofs having been given, Mr. Jay proved that he served the defendant with a writ, and that the defendant said he was the person named therein—that he had written to Mr. Parker (the company's law clerk), in Sheffield, and had made an offer to pay all he could; but if called upon to pay the whole it would ruin him. The jury found for the plaintiffs—damages 241*l.* 14*s.* principal and interest.

Mr. Baron HOLDS remarked, that if parties took shares they must sometimes expect to pay for them.

VARTOG IRON COMPANY—NON-FULFILLMENT OF CONTRACT.

HIGGINS AND OTHERS v. SENIOR.—In this case, which was tried by a special jury of merchants, Messrs. V. Higgins and W. H. Higgins, trading in this town under the firm of Vincent Higgins and Son, iron merchants, were the plaintiffs, and Mr. John Senior, trading in this town, under the firm of John Senior and Co., iron merchant, was the defendant. The declaration set forth that the defendant agreed to sell the plaintiffs 1000 tons of Vartog or other merchantable bar-iron, at 6*l.* per ton, free on board at Newport, 200 tons to be delivered by the 30th August, 1840—400 tons in all September, and the remaining 400 tons by the 14th October—Mastog iron being excluded from the contract; that both parties agreed to perform this contract, and that the defendant was required to send the iron, but refused to do so. The defendant pleaded that he had made no such arrangement, and also that the plaintiffs had made no such arrangement with him.

Mr. DENMAN stated the plaintiff's case. They had employed a Mr. Mead, formerly an iron merchant, as their agent, to buy this iron. About the 20th July last, he made a contract with the defendant's brother, William Senior, who was in the defendant's place of business, for 1000 tons of Vartog iron, but the contract was cancelled, and a new one was made, which the learned counsel read, to the effect that on the date set forth (21st July, 1840), they had sold, through Mr. Mead, to Messrs. V. Higgins and Sons, 1000 tons of Vartog or other merchantable bar-iron, common sizes, flat, square, and round, at 6*l.* per ton, free on board at Newport, less 5 per cent. for cash payment, with the stipulations as to delivery before mentioned, and certain others as to freight, &c., and some exceptions as to shipment. Though the plaintiffs had about the several times specified in the contract, made repeated demands for the parcels of iron, as per agreement, accompanying the demand with intimations that they should hold the defendant responsible for the breach of contract, they had not received up to this time any of the iron, which had risen in the market at the period, and they had consequently brought the present action.

For the defendant it was contended, and evidence was given to show, that only one-half the agreement had been produced, and the other half was put in to show that the contract with the defendant as principal, but assigned for the Vartog Iron Co. The counterpart of the agreement given by Mead to William Senior was put in and read. It was dated on the same day as the other, and commenced in the following terms:—"Liverpool, 21st July, 1840. (Signed) Samuel Mead for V. Higgins and Co., iron merchants. Bought of the Vartog Iron Co., per John Senior and Co., 1000 tons of good merchantable bar-iron, &c." The remainder of the paper was in precisely the same terms as that given in evidence for the plaintiffs, except a postscript excluding Mastog iron.—The jury retired, and after a short absence, delivered in a verdict for the plaintiffs—damages, 1450*l.*, or 1*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* per ton on 1000 tons; costs, 40*s.* His lordship certified that it was a fit case for trial by a special jury.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.—The following gentlemen have been appointed as the Select Committee, to inquire into the state of the law respecting joint stock companies (banking companies excepted) with a view to the prevention of fraud.—Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Shell, Lord Granville Somerset, Mr. G. W. W. Wood, Sir Thomas Fremantle, Mr. Oswald, Mr. Wolverley Atwood, Mr. Clay, Mr. Goddard, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Blake, Mr. Gibson Craig, Mr. Freshfield, Mr. Baring (Thetford), and Mr. Beaumont.

EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE OF AN AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE.—From a Correspondent.—On the 9th ult. the *Hickson and Harrison* engine hauled over the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad (51½ miles in length from Reading to its intersection with the Columbia Railroad) a net burden of 305½ tons of 2240 *l.* in 183 cars, weighing 173 tons—making a total gross weight of 481½ tons; weight of engine, with water and fuel, 26,700 *l.*; cars, four-wheeled; and running time 4 hours 34 min.; the whole length of train 1260 feet. The engine started the above train, on a level, without any assistance, and gradually increased her speed to the average of 11½ miles per hour. The above performance is believed to be unsurpassed, and the train to be the longest and heaviest ever hauled by one engine on any railroad in Great Britain or America.

PARIS AND ROMAN RAILWAY.—The *Revue Industrielle*, in noticing the arrival of waggons and workmen for the Paris and Roman Railroad in that port, says that the waggons have been hired from the London and South-England Company at a much lower price than they could possibly have been in France, and that the workmen who have been sent over are all chosen from the most sober and laborious of their class that could be found in England. This Journal takes the opportunity of pointing out the activity and energy shown by the English engineers, and the Paris and Roman Company, and holds up their example to the notice of all engaged in France on similar works.

FOREIGN PATENTS.

[From a list of patents lately granted by the Belgian Government.]

Ad. Le Hardy de Beaulieu, a patent of invention for fifteen years, for a machine for extracting ores and raising water from mines by means of endless vertical ropes.

Pierre Joseph Durieux, a patent of invention for five years, for a subterranean goniometer, to be used instead of the compass in mines in which there are magnetic substances, or on railroads.

F. Bon, a patent of invention for fifteen years, for an apparatus applicable to the condensers of steam-engines working in a vacuum, and condensing by external cooling.

Benjamin Wickles, represented by Dethy, patent of invention for ten years, for improvements in the construction and arrangement of flood-gates and water-wheels.

Matthieu Louis Muiseler, a patent of improvement for fifteen years, to date from the 15th Sept., 1840, for improvements in the colliers' lamp (for which he had previously obtained a patent).

E. G. Brabant Lemielle, a patent of invention and improvement for ten years, for a process of soldering metals by their fusion alone, without the aid of other substances.

James Haenck, represented by Delanson Clark, a patent of invention and improvement for fifteen years, for an improved method of raising water and other fluids.

Henri Steven, a patent of invention for fifteen years, for a machine for raising water to any required height by atmospheric pressure.

J. S. Guillemin, a patent of invention for ten years, for a new mode of draining, effected by pumps, called by the inventor "semi-auto motrices."

G. Hoorickx, a patent of importation for five years, for the manufacture of a new fuel called "carbolesine."

Henri Steven, a patent of improvement for fifteen years, to date from the 3d Feb. 1841, for an improvement in the machine for raising water (for which he obtained a patent the 3d Feb., 1841), and which improvement consists in substituting condensed steam in place of the pneumatic pump.

[From the Journal of the Franklin Institute.]

Specification of a patent for an improvement in the process of protecting articles of iron and steel from oxidation, granted to Palmer Sumner and Peter Naylor.

To all whom it may concern, be it known that we, Palmer Sumner and Peter Naylor, of the city of New York, have invented an improvement in the "process, method, or means, by which various articles of iron, or steel, may be preserved from oxidation, or rusting, by the galvanic action produced by zinc," for which process letters patent of the United States were granted to M. Sorel, on the seventh day of December, 1837; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of our improvement.

We, the said Palmer Sumner and Peter Naylor, having become proprietors, by assignment, of a right to use the said process, have, in carrying the same into practical operation, found that the malleability of sheet-iron is much impaired by giving thereto a coating of zinc, in the manner directed in the specification of the letters patent of the said M. Sorel; and that, in consequence of this diminished malleability, such prepared sheet-iron is unsuited, in many cases, to be applied to the purpose of covering the roofs of houses, or to be otherwise used where it is required to be grooved, seamed, or in any way suddenly bent; and our improvement consists in a process by which this difficulty is obviated, whilst the zinc is at the same time so applied as by its galvanic action on the iron, to protect it from oxidation.

We take sheets of iron, and cover them with tin, or with an alloy of tin and lead, adopting in this process the mode, or modes, followed in the well-known manufacture of sheets, or plates, of iron into tin plate. After having completed this operation, we submit the sheets, or plates, so prepared to a like process, with the substitution of zinc for tin, or an alloy of tin; the mode of performing which process is fully set forth in the letters patent granted to said M. Sorel, and does not differ from the ordinary process known under the name of tinning. When thus treated, the plates, or sheets, of iron preserve their malleability unimpaired, and may be bent and otherwise worked as easily as before they had received such coating—a result which appears to be due to the interposition of the coating of tin between the zinc and the iron, by which interposition the chemical combination of the iron and zinc is prevented. Where it is not necessary to use plates of metal of a larger size than that of sheets of tin plate, we take that material as it comes from the manufactory, and have then only to give it a coating of zinc, to receive which it does not require any particular preparation.

In the letters patent granted to M. Sorel, it is proposed, sometimes, to add a coating of tin over that of the zinc, for the purpose of giving to the article made, a brighter appearance, and as an improvement also in culinary vessels; but our process is the reverse of this, and the end attained by us altogether different from that above proposed, and, at the same time, our process produces a new and useful result.

What we claim, therefore, as our invention, and as an improvement on the process of M. Sorel, is the preserving the malleability of sheet-iron, whilst it is protected from oxidation by the galvanic action between it and the zinc, in the manner above set forth—namely, by first tinning said iron in the ordinary way, and afterwards by giving thereto a coating of zinc above the tin.

THE MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS AT COULLET.

The following account of the manufactory carried on at Couillet, near Charleroi, taken from *Le Fauxal*, gives a most flourishing description of the iron manufactory in Belgium:—"Couillet is only half an hour's journey from Charleroi, and by Charleroi is generally understood all the surrounding localities which give importance to a town, which in itself is very disagreeable, and has nothing to recommend it. A simple description of this great depot of industry will give some idea of its extent and importance. Many of our readers have heard the name of that establishment again and again, but they cannot form an idea of its amazing extent. It was surpassed only by one rival in Belgium; but Seraing was too large, it was like Mount Athos, overwhelmed by its own weight. Couillet possesses eight blast furnaces. There are immense cauldrons, in which the coke and the ore produce every morning and evening lakes of boiling metal, which is run every twelve hours. There are also two furnaces of fine metal; a large manufactory for making fire proof bricks; a rolling apparatus; two large forges; a workshop for the construction of boilers, those prime movers of modern industry, where the roaring steam is at once confined and rendered formidable. Couillet is able to produce in one day 60,000 kilogrammes of cast-iron, 20,000 kilogrammes of fine metal, and 50,000 kilogrammes of bar-iron of all sizes. It can produce in a year steam-engines equal in aggregate power to the force of 1200 horses, working without ceasing. It consumes daily in the manufacture of cast-iron 240,000 kilogrammes of ore, 320,000 kilogrammes of fuel, 50,000 kilogrammes of calcareous earths; an enormous total of 640,000 kilogrammes of materials. Couillet may be judged of by a single comparison. The whole of Belgium produced in 1830 45,000,000 of cast-iron; Couillet alone supplied 30,000,000—that is, two-thirds. And at the present time, when our increased production of cast-iron amounts to 90,000,000, Couillet still contributes a third part of it. We, notwithstanding, do not include in this calculation 8,000,000 kilogrammes of metal which come from the refining furnaces. It consumes in the manufacture of iron 15,000 kilogrammes of fine metal, 50,000 kilogrammes of cast-iron, and 110,000 kilogrammes of fuel per day.

The coal mines of Mariéville belong to Couillet; all the coal that is extracted from them, as well as a part of that from its other mines at Charleroi, are consumed by its blast furnaces. The moving power employed in the ramifications of this colossal establishment is upwards of 1035 horses constantly at work, this power being given by twenty-seven steam-engines. Besides this, it employs from 16,000 to 17,000 workmen in the manufactory and collieries. This magnificent establishment of Couillet has been entirely formed in less than ten years under the direction of M. Heurard.

EXTRAORDINARY FOSSIL.—We yesterday had sent, for our inspection, a very remarkable remains of a former world, the far-tooth of a mammoth, or mastodon, in very excellent preservation, which was found, about three weeks ago, among some gravel in the bed of the Trent, a few miles from Nottingham. The tooth weighs 9½ *l.*, and is, perhaps, the most perfect specimen which has ever been seen in England. What is most extraordinary, is the fact of its being met with in a neighbourhood where no geological remains of any note have yet been discovered. Though found among gravel, it shows no evidence whatever of having been subjected to any attrition. The fang is almost perfect, though the outer coating, or tarsi, with which the tooth was apparently covered, is at one end removed, and discloses the enamel, as though that end had been above the gravel in the water, and subjected to the washing of ages. We should recommend a diligent search, both among the gravel and in the neighbouring bank, from which the tooth might probably be washed, in order to see if any other remains of this antediluvian monster (which, judging by the size of the tooth, must have been some twenty feet high) can be discovered.—*Birmingham Advertiser*, Thursday.

MAMMOTH.—A magnificent skeleton of a mammoth has been discovered near St. Louis, thirty-two feet long, and sixteen feet high. The animal, when alive, is estimated to have weighed fifty tons. The jaws and teeth show that he was both carnivorous and gregarious.

RAILWAY AND RIVER RAILWAY.—The line from Bristol to Bridgewater, we understand, will be ready to open for traffic on Whit Monday the 31st of May.

MINING CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLISH MINES.

HOLMSTON MINING COMPANY.

April 5.—I beg leave to inform you, that the lode in the 110 fathom level west is about eight inches wide, and producing rich stones of copper ore. The 100 fathom level west is still in a good course of ore, the lode being eighteen inches wide, and worth 35s. per fathom. In the new stopes, in back of this level, no lode has as yet been taken down. In the ninety fathom level west the lode is sixteen inches wide, and worth 13s. per fathom. In the rise, in the back of the eighty fathom level, the ground is still moderate. In the level east of the engine-shaft the lode is twenty inches wide, composed chiefly of munda and spar. The lode in the eastern stopes, in back of the eighty fathom level, is sixteen inches wide, and worth 20s. per fathom. The lode in the western stopes, in back of ditto, is twenty inches wide, and worth about 32s. per fathom. In the seventy fathom level, eastern stopes, the lode is twenty inches wide, and worth 30s. per fathom. The lode in the western stopes, in back of ditto, is eighteen inches wide, worth about 25s. per fathom. The cross-cut to Hichins's shaft, at the sixty fathom level, and rise in the back of ditto, against Bray's shaft, are without important alteration. The tribute pitches, upon the whole, are still looking favourable. We weighed on Tuesday, the 30th ult., February ore, 206 tons 6 cwt., and sampled March ore, computed 208 tons, of good quality. F. PHILLIPS.

REDMOOR CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.

April 5.—The stopmen are still engaged in fixing the lift, altering pit-work, &c., to the fifty fathom level. We suppose they will resume sinking in course of a day or two. In driving cross-cut south, at the fifty fathom level, the ground is favourable. At the forty fathom level, driving east, on the great south lode, we have opened on its course about six feet; its size is eighteen inches, composed of capel, spar, munda, and stones of copper ore. On the middle lode, at the thirty fathom level, going west, we find the lode to be from ten to twelve inches wide, producing a large quantity of munda, and a portion of copper ore, but not rich for the latter. At this level we are also driving south on the silver-lead lode, which is at present from eight to ten inches wide, yielding good work, ground not quite so favourable as last week. During the past week we have had two men driving west from the mine, on the new copper lode, at 35s. per fathom, where we have a lode eighteen inches wide, yielding two tons of ore per fathom, with very hopeful appearances. The new pitch, set on this lode last setting, is looking favourable. The other three pitches are still producing about the usual amount of ore. Hurl Down cross-cut is progressing steadily; we have driven about seven fathoms north of the shaft. F. R. ROWE.

CORNBURN MINING COMPANY.

April 5.—We have set sixteen pitches, varying from 19s. to 27s. per ton, and in the said pitches there are employed forty-three men on tribute; we have eight tubwork bargains, employing thirty-four men. At the fifty fathom level, driving west of engine-shaft, on Chiverton lode, it is two feet wide, and passing through good tribute ground. In the north side of this level we have just cut into the counter lode, which we find also very promising; it is two feet wide, and is likely to produce, from present appearances, a great quantity of good work; the lead appears in this place to hold down quite as strong as at shallower levels, and our opinions are that it is richer for silver—a very promising level. Our last parcel of thirty-five tons, sold on the 26th ult., brought 16s. 10s. 6d. per ton. We shall now prepare for the sinking of the engine-shaft to a sixty fathom level, but will require the whole of this month before we shall be able to get our new bottom for the plunger lift made at the foundry, and as well other necessary alterations required in the present pitwork; so time, however, will be lost in carrying into effect an object so desirable. The fifty fathom level, driving east, on Chiverton lode, is two feet wide, four inches of which is a rich leader of ore. At the forty fathom level, driving east, we have an improvement; the lode is become large, and yielding some good stones of ore. In the thirty-two fathom level we are driving east on the north counter lode; at present it is unproductive, but we consider, as it is large, and imbedded in a very soft and congenial-looking stratum, that there is a great chance of meeting with something valuable in this lode—at all events, it is an object well deserving our attention. The other operations on tubwork are sinking of shafts, driving cross-cuts, &c., and which I can only add are in easy and cheap ground. In conclusion, I beg to say, that Cornburn Mine assumes a very encouraging aspect, and, with a little patience and perseverance, there are reasonable grounds to hope and expect she will make a lasting and profitable concern.

TAMAR SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY.

April 5.—In the 135 fathom level the lode is much the same as stated for some time past, it is about two feet wide, intersected with a small quantity of ore. In the 125 fathom level the lode is nine inches wide, at present poor. In the 115 fathom level the lode is six inches wide, carrying a rich branch of silver-lead ore. In the 105 fathom level we are at present cross-cutting west as described by Capt. Rowe in his monthly report. In the ninety-five fathom level the lode is three feet big, one foot of which is good work. In the mine, sinking from the seventy-five to the eighty-five fathom level, the lode is one foot wide, producing some ore work. In the tribute department, we are, on the whole, looking favourable, particularly in the back of the 105 fathom level; and, judging from the present prospect, we expect to have a larger sampling for the next than the last. MARK JAMES.

TINCROFT MINING COMPANY.

April 6.—I am glad to say that the eighty-one and seventy-two ends have improved for copper during the past week. The ninety end will produce about two tons of copper per fathom. The 100 end is now passing through a cross-course. The engine-shaft and other levels continue much the same as last reported. Our pitches, on the whole, are looking better for tin and copper. We are sinking the water pretty well at Palmer's shaft. The lode in the new engine shaft is twenty inches wide, with plenty of munda and good stones of copper ore. W. PAUL.

TRETOL MINING COMPANY.

April 5.—The lode in the forty fathom level east of engine-shaft is about one foot wide—tribute ground; eight fathoms driven last month, much the same. The lode in the forty fathom level west of engine-shaft is twenty inches wide—tribute ground; four fathoms driven last month, good tribute ground. The lode in the thirty fathom level east of Williams's shaft is one foot wide—good tribute ground; about eight fathoms driven last month—three fathoms unproductive—five fathoms tribute ground. The lode in the twenty fathom level east of Williams's shaft is six inches wide—tribute ground; five fathoms and a half driven last month—two fathoms good tribute ground; three and a half fathoms tribute ground. The lode in the ten fathoms level east of Williams's shaft is small and unproductive; seven fathoms driven last month—three fathoms very good tribute ground, two fathoms tribute ground, and two fathoms unproductive. The part we are driving on of the Mine Park lode, at the adit level, is one foot wide, producing a small quantity of ore; three and a half fathoms driven last month—much the same. Tregellas's lode, at the adit level, is about fifteen inches wide—unproductive; four fathoms driven last month; three fathoms producing a small quantity of ore, and one fathom unproductive. The rise, in the back of adit, west of Williams's shaft, is suspended; nine fathoms driven last month—unproductive. Last Friday (our setting-day) twenty-one pitches were set in different parts of the mine—two at 11s.; one at 10s. 6d.; four at 10s.; one at 9s. 6d.; one at 9s. 6d.; two at 8s.; two at 7s.; two at 6s. 6d.; five at 5s.; and one at 4s. 6d. H. WILLIAMS, J. MORCOM.

MINING NOTICES.

[Under this head we purpose collecting such paragraphs as may appear in the newspapers and other journals, having reference to discoveries and improvements in mining operations at home and abroad. It is hardly necessary to observe, that we must not be considered to admit the correctness of the information conveyed, which, in many instances, requires cautious investigation—the sanguine expectations of parties in some instances, and the want of honesty to others, throwing a degree of responsibility on a Journal in giving publicity to reports, which we do not intend taking upon ourselves.]

DIAMOND MINES AND GOLD MINES IN SUMATRA.—It is stated in letters from Amsterdam that a diamond mine has been discovered in the district of Dordrecht, in the southern part of Sumatra, which, according to all appearances, is as rich as the most abundant of those of Borneo. The mine is to be worked by the Government. The gold mines of Borneo, and of Kampong Kerdj, in the same island, which have only been worked since 1827, have become more and more productive the deeper they are sunk. From these mines, where formerly the gold was found only in the form of powder, masses of gold are now obtained, weighing from two to three, and even as much as four pounds.—*Londoners' Advocate.*

IRON TRADE IN HERWICK.—There has of late been a great and gratifying increase in the manufacture of articles of iron in this place, all the three foundries having been for some time in full and active operation. The schooner *Leith* sailed from this on Saturday last for London, with a cargo of 150 or 170 tons weight, consisting of miscellaneous articles manufactured at Helen Iron Works, varying from 12 cwt. to a few pounds each. This is by far the largest exportation of this species of manufacture ever sent from this port. The *Edinburgh*, also, a short time ago, sailed with a cargo of 125 tons of similar articles manufactured at the Helen Iron Works, and forty or fifty at the old foundry, and a large number are also employed by the Messrs. Robertson in their extensive establishment at Tinsdale.—*Edinburgh Advertiser.*

STREATHAM LEAD MINES.—Lord Lovell has issued out to an English gentleman, Mr. Thomas Dodd, the lead mine lately opened on his lordship's property in Streatham. The mine consists of lead ore and barres, is five miles in length, by two and a half in width. The object of Mr. Dodd is to form a company for working the mine, by raising a capital of £100,000, in shares of £1 each.—*Continental Mercury.*

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

BLAENAVON IRON AND COAL COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at the London Tavern, on Tuesday, the 5th instant.

F. WARDEN, Esq., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN proceeded to state, that the views of the directors were embodied in the report, and, after the mature consideration they had given it, and the great interest which the directors themselves had in the undertaking, the shareholders must consider that as a guarantee, and that the course which had been recommended for their adoption was the one most likely to be beneficial to the proprietors at large. He begged to remove an erroneous impression which had gone abroad, that the company required to raise 100,000*l.* in addition to the sum mentioned in the report. He requested Mr. Scrivenor to state to the meeting the state in which he found the works of the company upon taking the management—also, to answer any question that any proprietor might suggest.

The SECRETARY then read the report, the substance of which was as follows:—That of the sum of 150,000*l.*, authorised to be raised on the security of debentures, 36,000*l.* had only been obtained. The capital represented by the new shares (viz., 100,000*l.*) is designed to serve the double purpose of forming a fund to pay off these debentures, when required, and also to supply the means for completing three new furnaces, and an extension of the present forge and mill. It went on to state, that their new manager reported that he found the outlay upon the works had proceeded so far that it will require no more than 22,000*l.* to put in blast these three new furnaces; and, including the other necessary outlay, the alterations recommended at the forge and mill will not exceed 50,000*l.*—making in all, for the works, 72,000*l.* By these alterations, their weekly "make" may be increased to 300 tons, which will render it unnecessary to erect a forge and mill at the new works—at the same time, the manufactured iron will embrace a greater variety than hitherto, and will command, it is hoped, a ready sale; a further sum of 33,000*l.* is required as working capital. Thus, 60,000*l.* may be assumed as the sum necessary to place the company in possession of eight furnaces, capable of producing between 600 and 700 tons of iron per week. The increase of permanent capital, proposed to be created by the issue of 2000 new shares—viz., 100,000*l.*—together with the amount uncalled for on the original shares—viz., 30,000*l.*—would be appropriated in the following manner:—Additional outlay on works, 27,000*l.*; reserved for liquidation of debentures, 36,000*l.*; loan from bankers, 20,000*l.*; working capital, 33,000*l.*—116,000*l.*; surplus, 14,000*l.*—Total, 130,000*l.* The report laid before the proprietors at the meeting of the 24th of April, 1840, showed that the aggregate profits of the company's existence, then amounted to 92,000*l.* The amount paid in dividends, computed upon the joint-stock capital, from the periods at which it had been advanced by the shareholders, averaged upwards of 8 per cent. upon the investment for the entire period; but, computed upon that part of the capital only which had been productive, the amount paid as dividends averaged upwards of 10 per cent. for the same period. Since that report was made 5*l.* more (making 45*l.* per share) has been paid up. Now, assuming the year 1840 as wholly unproductive, it would yet appear, that, by throwing the profit of the first three years and a half over the whole four years and a half, the shareholders have received a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum upon the capital paid up, since the formation of the company; or, deducting that portion yet unproductive, 7 per cent. per annum. It also appears that the average net profit per annum at the old works, after deducting all expenses in London, has been 19,968*l.* Assuming, then, from this result, a profit of 4000*l.* per furnace per annum, five furnaces would give 20,000*l.*; deduct interest on debentures and loans, 6500*l.*—leaving 13,500*l.*, which, if divided, would allow only 32s. 6d. per share, being less than 4 per cent. per annum upon the (paid-up) capital. But if the capital of the company is not increased, it may be necessary to appropriate the sum of 50,000*l.* annually towards the liquidation of the mortgage, reducing the amount to be divided to 8500*l.*, yielding a dividend of less than 24 per cent., until the mortgage be paid off. The amount borrowed, however, including the sum of 36,000*l.* due to debenture holders, is 56,000*l.*, towards the discharge of which, the sum remaining uncalled for upon the old shares (viz., 30,000*l.*) is available—leaving a balance of 26,000*l.* still unprovided for. Assuming, then, 4000*l.* as the average profit per furnace upon eight furnaces, the amount of profit would be 32,000*l.*; add rent saved, 500*l.* per annum, on three furnaces built on the freehold, 1500*l.*—33,500*l.* From this must be deducted—Interest on mortgage, 2500*l.*; interest at 8 per cent. on 40,000*l.* (expected to be called up on the new shares), 3200*l.*; interest on debentures, loans, &c., 5300*l.*—11,000*l.* There remains 22,500*l.* to be divided, giving 55s. per share (4*l.* 6s. 6d. 6 per cent.) on the old shares, and leaving a surplus to be added to the reserved profits.

Mr. SCRIVENOR entered into a brief statement of the state of efficiency of the company's works, and concluded by recommending an increase in the make of boiler plate, which commanded a ready sale, and for which their iron was well adapted.

Mr. EMANUEL ZWILCHENBART, on the part of the Liverpool shareholders, put some questions to the secretary, but, at the request of the chairman, they were postponed until the next meeting.

A resolution, embracing the principal points of the report, was then moved by Sir JAMES TADY, and seconded by Mr. JONES, and carried unanimously. After a few observations from Messrs. Evans, Sewell, and Morgan, thanks were voted to the chairman and directors, and the meeting separated.

WEST LONDON RAILWAY COMPANY.

An adjourned special general meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held at their offices, Abchurch Lane, on Monday, the 5th inst.

W. MORGAN, Esq., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the meeting, by giving to the shareholders a statement of the affairs of the company, which he represented as being in a most distressing state; committee after committee had been formed, and meeting after meeting called, and as yet no resolution had been come to that would in any way meet the wants, or even the necessities, of the company; creditors were urgent for their demands—landholders saying, either give us our money or return us our lands—landlords pressing—the loss by lawsuits enormous—and even the very works, that had cost so much labour and money, were crumbling away before their eyes, all for want of money—of a mere sum, that is as nothing compared with the greatness of the undertaking, and the profits that, when once completed, it must yield. The Act they had obtained was more satisfactory, and gave them greater powers than even the most ambitious among the shareholders could have expected, and, should they then, for a few pounds, lose the whole that they have expended, and let their ruin remain to make them the laughing-stock of the public! Several plans have been laid before the shareholders, but none had been carried out; they must now return to the plan as first proposed by the directors—viz., to carry on steam from one canal to the other, and from that to the river and to Knightbridge; whether this plan will be supported by the shareholders remains to be proved; it appeared to him that there were no objections to it; as the negotiations with the landholders had terminated so favourably, the company had obtained their object in almost every instance. An arrangement has been entered into with the creditors, who have agreed to wait for one year, provided the canal plan is finished; the water companies have acted very liberally—indeed, the public generally have evinced a great interest in the concern, for, only taking the drainage of the railway into consideration, a great national benefit must accrue, by the advancement of the health of the community. Another company is only waiting for the commencement of this railway to carry it on to Deptford, and the iron boats are about to proceed beyond where it stops; with these advantageous prospects it would be madness for us to stop. Money must be raised, and the question now before the meeting is, how to obtain it? Time is of the utmost importance, and, if the railway is to be proceeded with, it must be done immediately; new shares must be issued, with equal advantage to the new as with the old holders. He (the chairman) said the sacrifice was great, but what else could be done. They have an engineer of great ability, and contractors who would finish the work in a very short time. The chairman then concluded, by recommending unanimity among the shareholders, and trusted that they might part with good feeling, and better prospects than hitherto.

Dr. CARPES thought the chairman had not given a very flattering account; from his own knowledge, he could say that the railway was not in an deplorable state as had been laid before the meeting. He lived at Shepherd's Bush, and had walked since the last meeting over all the works of the company, which he found in a most excellent state—indeed, the whole of the embankments and the bridge from Shepherd's Bush to the Great Western Railway were in the greatest state of perfection. A vote of thanks from Parliament ought to be given to the company, as their drainage had rendered Shepherd's Bush one of the most wholesome places in the environs of London, instead of being, as it was a few years back, one of the most unhealthy. Before the company commenced operations he gave 12*l.* per acre for some land in the lane leading to Wotton Road, which, from the improvement, is now worth 40*l.* per acre.

Mr. J. WHITE gave in twelve papers, and some plans for carrying on the railway, which were decided, before the meeting separated, to be utterly impracticable. He also mentioned a method by which the company might become extricated from all their difficulties, by selling the land at their farms (nearly three acres) for 100*l.* per acre; but the only difficulty was, that nobody would give more than 125*l.* per acre for it. He then laid his plans and papers on the table, with the understanding that the directors were to supply him with copies of them.

Mr. J. S. LESLIE urged that the last meeting was adjourned only to get to something definite; if they did not carry on the present line somebody

else would, on the advantages were so very evident; it only remained to be decided whether the whole of what they had hitherto subscribed should be lost, or if they should subscribe 5*l.* per share to save it, and, indeed, revenue profit to the pockets of the shareholders. The chairman said that delay was ruinous—it was, indeed, and if anything was to be done, the sooner they set about it the better, for all parties concerned. He (Sir John) then moved—That the line be completed with one line of rails from the Kensington Canal Basin to the Grand Junction Canal, for which purpose 40,000*l.* should be raised, in 20,000 shares of 2*l.* each; such shares to be entitled to all the advantages of the 50*l.* shares, to be ratably divided amongst the proprietors, and, in the event of their refusing them, to be offered to the public at large, to be paid for by four instalments of 10*l.* each—the first at the time of allotment, the second on the 31st of August, the third on the 31st of November, and the last on the 31st of February, 1842—a scrip to be issued on the payment of the first allotment.

Mr. SHEPPARD, M.P., moved, as an amendment—"That the line do stop at the Kensington-road;" he thought that 30,000*l.* would be sufficient to cover all expenses, which he proposed to raise by 5*l.* shares, and, if that was agreed to, he would at once double the number of his shares, and pay the cash at once.—Mr. J. WHITE seconded the amendment.

Mr. COMMON also moved, as an amendment—"That 60,000*l.* be raised by shares, at 1*l.* per share;" but the general voice of the meeting being against the amendment, he withdrew it.

The CHAIRMAN having proved Mr. Sheppard's amendment as impracticable, on account of having no ground where a station could conveniently be formed, he, with the consent of Mr. White, withdrew it. He (the chairman) also informed the meeting that Mr. White's plan for raising money by mortgage had been unsuccessfully tried, as nobody would lend it—in fact, the company's securities were valueless.

Mr. M'FARLANE explained to the meeting that he would only consent to the money being raised by new shares on condition of its being invested in the hands of trustees, so that the directors could not apply it to any other purpose but that of completing the railway—viz., 32,000*l.* to the railway, and 8000*l.* to pay sundry small debts.

Mr. DUNCAN (solicitor to the company) said the resolution was drawn up in such a manner, that the money could be applied to no other purpose. Some discussion took place, as to whether fourteen or twenty-one days should be given after the date of the calls, before the shares which remained unpaid were to be forfeited, which was settled ultimately at fourteen days; also, as to whether the shares were to be definitely forfeited, or whether it should be optional with the directors—the latter method was agreed to.—The resolutions were then put by the chairman, and carried *con. com. for.* Mr. WHITE said his name should never appear to a unanimous agreement.

Mr. SHEPPARD, M.P., was anxious that something should be done for the benefit of the poor shareholders who might not be able to pay the additional 5*l.* per share. After a long discussion, it was decided that the Act would allow of no distinction between the shareholders.

It was moved by Mr. M'FARLANE, and seconded by Mr. LUARD—"That the land remaining of the farm should be sold, either by public auction or public tender"—which was carried unanimously.

Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting separated, the discussion having lasted 34 hours.

BAHIA STREAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

An adjourned half yearly general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at the George and Vulture Tavern, on Monday, the 5th inst.

JOHN HENSON, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. THOMAS (in the absence of Mr. Cannan) read the advertisement convening the meeting, after which the report and statement of accounts were submitted.—The report, after recapitulating the substance of that laid before the meeting in December last, proceeded to state, that upon the change in the board of directors, the company's affairs were in the greatest confusion—the exclusive right of navigating the waters rendered useless by the terms imposed by the Government—the vessels purchased for the company had proved totally unfit for the employment intended, and even the company's right thereto was daily exposed to litigation, in short, the vessels had been registered by the late board in the name of a single director, the consequence of which was, that on a recent occasion, when the board were requested to affix a price to one of the vessels for delivery at Bahia so desirable an opportunity was lost, the directors being unable to give a legal title to the property in question. They had given positive orders for the return of the unsuitable boats, but the agents have urged on the directors to make efforts to sell the boats in Brazil rather than send them to England. The gentleman departed to Bahia to select the site of ground granted by the Government, in his letter stated that the bottom of the Bahia was in such a state as would shortly move her out of work, which interruption in the navigation of the bay would cause great dissatisfaction there. They also regretted that the factory for the repairs of the boats, upon the inspection of the gentleman deputed to Bahia, was found devoid of all essential conveniences. The question now was, whether the remaining funds should be employed in a further outlay, for which experience fully demonstrates no returns are to be expected. An outlay amounting to the whole of the subscribed capital had taken place, exclusive of the boats at Bahia, the value of which was undefined, and which are the subject of a suit in Chancery. The funds were quite inadequate to the prosecution of the undertaking; in such a position the only resources would be the receipt of remittances from Brazil, which cannot be calculated on; under such circumstances, the board have come to the conclusion that the further prosecution of the objects of the company should be abandoned.—The statement of accounts showed the following results:—Total receipts, 12,135*l.* 10s. 3d.; expenditure, 44,861*l.* 3s. 6d.; balance, 744*l.* 6s. 9d.; Exchange bills, 609*l.* 16s. 10d.

The CHAIRMAN called the attention of the proprietors to the report, which was a clear statement of their affairs, and upon which it was unnecessary for him to comment; also, he begged them to adopt, with united feeling, the course to be taken.

Mr. DARTY wished the 51st clause of the Deed of Settlement, referring to the dissolution of the company, to be read.

A SHAREHOLDER asked if a dissolution of the company would effect the Chancery suit?—Mr. THOMAS replied that it would not, the proceedings having been instituted by certain parties individually.

Mr. WILLIAMS inquired in what position they stood with regard to Mr. Heathorn?—Mr. THOMAS said that the purchasing of the vessels had been entrusted to Mr. Heathorn, as well as coals, and it appeared that Mr. Heathorn had the vessels registered in his name, instead of that of the company, and that he had also sold the company one of his own ships, upon which he had charged a commission, and had obtained large discounts in the purchase of coals, which had not been allowed to the company; the proceedings had been instituted in Chancery, to compel Mr. Heathorn to transfer the register of the vessels, as, until that was done, none of the vessels could be sold.—It was then moved by Mr. PALMER, seconded by Mr. DARTY, and carried unanimously, that the report be received and adopted.

Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

HEREFORDSHIRE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE CANAL.

On Tuesday, the 5th inst., a meeting of the shareholders in the above-mentioned undertaking was held at the Feather Hotel, in Ludbury.

Rev. K. E. MURRY in the chair.

The report of the committee stated that they had attended without relaxation to the state of the expenditure and to the progress of the works, which were going on most satisfactorily, and continue to have well grounded assurance that the expenditure will be within the estimate. The committee had not yet availed themselves of any pecuniary resources, excepting those arising from the calls on the shares. They had had offers from Government of a loan, but thought it prudent to decline accepting it for the present, in the expectation that such improvement may very shortly take place in the money-market as will enable them to raise the loan required on much more favourable terms.

After some observations from several proprietors, expressive of their approbation of the proceedings of the committee and the prospects of the company, the chairman remarked that the next duty which devolved upon them was to fill up the vacancy which the lamented death of the late Earl Somers had caused in their committee. Some remarks were then made by T. Spencer, Esq., and the present Earl Somers was unanimously elected a member of the committee of management. The thanks of the meeting were voted to the chairman, who, in returning thanks, expressed the pleasure he felt in anticipating the completion of the canal to Hereford, and trusted that all would, as much as lay in their power, individually assist in the furtherance of so desirable an object, calculated as it was so materially to benefit the country.

MINE ACCIDENTS.

Wheel Deter.—On Thursday, the 28d ult., as John Hookin was at work at Wheel Owing Mine, and had prepared a hole for blasting which did not ignite, after waiting the usual time, he returned to ascertain the cause, when, as he was preparing to climb out the hole again, it instantly exploded, but fortunately without doing him any other harm than throwing him into fits.

Candleford Iron Works.—At these works, on Tuesday last, James Turner, who was filling the furnace with fuel, slipped, and fell into it. He was seen by one of the men, at a distance, in the act of falling, but not so much as to be seen from the furnace mouth and so none of the poor man was to be seen—the flames had consumed him in a moment.

INCREASE EXPENDITURE OF GOODWORK IN BLASTING.—Is cutting through the Bishop's Lane Ridge, of the Glasgow and Greenock Railway, no less than 300 tons of gunpowder have been used in blasting by the miners engaged in that operation.

THE MINERS' COMPANY.—The court of assistants of the Governor and Company of Copper Miners in England hereby give notice, that the HALF-YEAR'S DIVIDEND declared this day, will be payable at their house, No. 57, Old Broad-street, on Thursday, the 15th inst., and on Wednesdays and Thursdays following from Eleven till Two o'clock.

Office of the Governor and Company of Copper Miners in England,
Old Broad-street, London, April 6.

THE MINING JOURNAL

Being extensively circulated among the mining and influential interests, offers peculiar advantages and facilities in giving publicity to all matters with which the capitalist, and the proprietor in joint-stock companies, may be interested. The advertisements inserted in the Journal are confined to prospectuses of new undertakings; notices of meetings, calls, and dividends; contracts for works; sales of mineral and landed property; descriptions of new mechanical inventions; scientific publications, works, and notices—thus all advertisements possess the unusual advantage of being associated only with others of a like nature, and being brought immediately under the notice of the parties interested.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

One column	£ 6 0	Twenty lines	£ 10 0
Half a column	3 0 0	Fourteen lines	6 12 0
Quarter of a column	1 12 0	Ten lines	4 0 0
Eighth of a column	0 16 0	Eight lines	3 0 0

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

IN THE ENSUING WEEK.

SOCIETY.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DAY.	HOOR.
Royal Medical and Chir. Soc.	55, Berners-street.	Tuesday	8 1/2 P.M.
Zoological	28, Leicester-square.	Tuesday	8 P.M.
Royal Botanical	49, Pall-mall.	Tuesday	8 P.M.
Society of Arts	Adelphi.	Wednesday	7 1/2 P.M.
Graphic	Thatched-house Tavern.	Wednesday	8 P.M.
Botanical	29, Bedford-street, Covent-garden.	Friday	8 P.M.
Royal Asiatic	14, Grafton-street.	Saturday	2 P.M.
Westminster Medical	Exeter Hall.	Saturday	8 P.M.

PUBLIC COMPANIES.

MEETINGS.

Chester and Birkenhead Railway	Clarendon Rooms, L'pool.	Apr. 10	12.
Maryport and Carlisle Railway	Station, Maryport.	10	11.
Rock's Tin Mining Company	George and Vulture Tavern.	14	1.
Manxton Iron and Coal Company	London Tavern.	23	1-2.
Barstons and Ganges Bitumen Co.	St. Mildred's-court, Cornhill.	23	1.
Newcastle-on-Tyne & Carlisle R'way	66, Close, Newcastle.	27	12.
Cornwall Great United Mines	George and Vulture Tavern.	29	2.
Newport Docks Company	Office, Newport.	May 6	12.

CALLS.

East Tretoll Mining Company	24s.	April 10	Barclay, Bevan, and Co.
Wheat Leas Mining Company	24s.	10	Barnett, Hoares, and Co.
Pulbreton Mining Company	24s.	10	Bosquet and Co.
South Australian Company	24s.	10	Ladbroke and Co.
London and South Western Railway (Group Branch)	24s.	10	Williams and Co.
Southampton Docks	24s.	10	Williams and Co.
Bedford Mining Company	24s.	10	Bosquet and Co.
Great North of England Railway	24s.	10	J. Pease, Darlington.
Agricultural and Commercial Bank of Ireland	24s.	10	Office.
Hartlepool Dock and Railway	24s.	10	Barnett and Co.
Wheat Wallie Mine	24s.	10	Manchester & L'pool Dist. Bk.
Hungerford and Lambeth R'way	24s.	10	London and County Bank.
Penon Foot Bridge Co.	24s.	10	Stone, Martin, and Co.
Rio de Acor Gold-stream Works	24s.	10	Stone, Martin, and Co.
Cambrian R. and S. S. Co.	24s.	10	London Joint-stock Bank.

DIVIDENDS.

United Hills Mine Company	10s. per share	Office, Adam's-court.	Apr. 15.
Commercial Bk. of New Orleans	4 per cent.	Held, Irving, and Co.	16.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Frideaux's paper "On the Wet Assay of Copper—Correction by the Blowpipe," shall appear next week, we were unable to get the diagrams ready in time for this.

ANALYTICAL CHART.—The letter referred to by our Delicately correspondent has not come to hand; on reference to another column he will find we have made some use of the information furnished.

VENTILATION OF MINES.—The paper will be very acceptable.

Received: "Mr. A. T. J. Martin," "B. E. T.," "Vern," "J. Williams," "A. Constant Reader," "B. T."

TO CORRESPONDENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

The OFFICE of the MINING JOURNAL is removed from Gough-square to 37, New Broad-street, City, to which address all advertisements, communications, &c., must, in future, be directed.

THE MINING JOURNAL,

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, APRIL 10, 1841.

It is now some time since the subject of the use and properties of anthracite has been mooted in our columns, which is a matter of surprise, when its increasing consumption in the United States is considered, and the many purposes to which this description of fuel might be advantageously employed, whether for steam-engines, furnaces in the smelting of ores, or for domestic purposes. On referring to a Table, which was inserted last week, we find that the quantity of anthracite raised in the United States in three years, ending 1830, was as follows—Schuylkill, 215,458 tons, or less than one-half the produce of 1840, which amounted to 452,291 tons—the aggregate produce for the three years ending 1840 being 1,329,583 tons, or more than six times the quantity raised in the like corresponding period ending 1830. At Mauch Chunk the quantity raised in three years, ending 1830, was 97,092, and for the like period ending 1840, 395,314 tons—or an increase of 300 per cent. For Beaver Meadow, Hazleton, Sugar Loaf, Pine Grove, and Shamokin, it does not appear, from the returns, that any coal was raised until 1837, when the quantity is set down as 51,617 tons, while the returns for 1840 are 162,383 tons. At Lackawanna, in like manner, the output has increased, which, in 1830, produced only 43,000 tons, while the returns for 1840 is 148,470 tons. Thus, in 1830, the whole quantity of coal raised from these several districts amounted only to 174,774 tons; the returns for 1840 showing the quantity in that year to amount to no less than 865,308 tons—being five times the quantity. We may here remark, that the total quantity raised from 1831 to 1840, both inclusive, was 8,942,501 tons; the consumption, which, in 1832, was estimated at 177,000 tons, having increased, in 1839, to 867,000 tons.

With results such as these, it is, we repeat, surprising that an interest so important should, in this country, be comparatively lost sight of. It is true, that a South Wales Anthracite Association was established—or, perhaps, we should say, rather endeavoured to be so; but, it must be admitted, there is a vast difference between the United States and South Wales—in the one there is enterprise and perseverance—and there the "go-a-head" principle, or system, is in full swing; whereas, in Wales, there is a want of energy, which makes us at times wonder how many centuries after the civilisation of other parts of the globe that this district became first populated.

Since writing the foregoing, we have received the reports of the Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County, United States, which possess too much interest to be hastily glanced at; to those our attention will be more immediately directed, and in an early Number we hope to present an article of interest to our readers; in the interim, we invite our correspondents to the discussion of a

question, which becomes the more important from the advances daily making in the United States; they do progress most assuredly, and they have our best wishes for success—at the same time we cannot disguise from ourselves that we are half angry with our anthracite proprietors at home to find them so insensible to their own interests, and to the advancement of the interests of the community at large, by the employment it would afford to a large class of the labouring population.

The intention of Government to institute an inquiry into joint-stock companies, with a view to the prevention of fraud, has caused increased bustle in more than one establishment in the arrangement of the books and documents, so as to be prepared, when the time arrives, for rendering an account of themselves. If the committee appointed, however, only fulfil their duties, we apprehend that the exposition of fraud which must take place will lead to some legislative enactment, whereby the public will henceforward be protected from the designing arts of unprincipled projectors. It will not, however, be sufficient to provide for the future, but the past claims their especial attention, not only with the view of acquiring information whereby the committee may be guided in the results at which they may arrive, but to unmask fraud, and subject the concoctors and abettors of those fraudulent acts which may come before them in the course of the investigation to the consequences attendant on their conviction. The task will be an ungracious and unpleasant one to perform—much mystery will have to be unravelled, and some private feelings, and, perhaps, private interests sacrificed, in arriving at the truth; but, the several acts of fraud practised (in some instances under the protection of an Act of Parliament), which have been exposed even through the columns of the MINING JOURNAL, are fully sufficient to justify a Parliamentary inquiry. We will not, on the present occasion, cite the several companies to which we think the attention of the committee should be first directed, nor the individuals whose evidence is necessary to expose the system of chicanery and fraud which has been pursued for some time past. This, however, we may hazard, by way of anticipatory observation—viz., that the companies formed for life assurance within the past ten or twelve years have decidedly a first claim on the committee, and we hope that they will enjoy the preference. There are some few questions of a general nature which, we think, might be put in all cases, the answers given being confirmed by the production of the books of the company. Amongst others, we consider the following pertinent to the objects of the inquiry:—

What the amount of capital subscribed, and number of shares taken on the company being formed and business commenced?

What the amount of capital now paid up, and how invested, distinguishing the several securities held by the company on the sums invested or advanced?

What the number of policies for life insurance, the amount for which the aggregate is insured, and what the total amount of annual premiums?

What the average life, probable term of duration, annual premium, and annual payments contemplated on the falling in of lives according to the scale on which insurances are effected?

What the difference, if any, in the scale of insurance as compared with those of other companies?

What the amount of policies which have fallen in since the formation of the company, and what the total amount of premiums received?

What the annual receipts of the company, distinguishing the separate years, and the sources from whence they were derived?

What the expenditure, in like manner, for each year, distinguishing whether payments made on policies, directors' salaries, office expenses, law charges, advertisements, &c.?

What the proportion or per centage which the expenses (exclusive of payments on the demise of the insured) bear to the annual receipts?

What the estimate of assets compared with liabilities?

What the number of directors, and mode of remuneration?

What profits have been divided among the proprietors and the insured?

What rate of interest so paid on the capital subscribed?

What the present state of the affairs of the company, supposing a cessation of business, showing the increase or decrease which has arisen to the capital invested?

These, and many other questions of a like nature, we think, should be put in every case, and which, if fairly answered, would at once lead to the line of examination to be thenceforward pursued, for well satisfied are we that the *exposé* which would take place under such circumstances would have the effect of annihilating many thriving establishments, and, by the publicity afforded to the evidence, not to advert to the measures which Parliament might deem it right to adopt, would open the eyes of the public, and act as a beacon, of which they would cautiously steer clear. Our attention will be directed to the proceedings of the committee, who, we trust, will not only report on companies now existing, but those defunct—on subject of which we believe Mr. Alderman THOMAS TALACRE WOOD could give some interesting and useful information.

We understand that the special committee of the Durham County Coal Company have appointed Mr. MATTHIAS DUNN, colliery viewer, to investigate and report upon the state of their colliery matters, preparatory to the general meeting of the company on the 27th inst. Having before had a good deal of experience of the tricks practised at general meetings, we strongly advise the shareholders, as they value their great responsibilities, to make a point of attending, to hear the state of their concerns laid open, and to vote accordingly.

THE "PRESIDENT."—No news of the *President* had reached Liverpool up to a quarter past ten o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning. The communication with Holyhead, by means of telegraph, is open. The prevailing opinion amongst persons who cannot bring their minds to believe that any fatal catastrophe has overtaken her, are, either that she has put back to New York or run for Bermuda; in which case a few days longer, and the uncertainty and alarm which prevail respecting the fate of this unfortunate ship may be expected to be cleared up and removed.

CLARET WATSON.—This steam vessel sailed from Bristol on Thursday for New York direct, at half past one o'clock precisely, immediately upon the arrival of the north mail-bags. She took with her forty-three passengers, among whom were Mr. Jendin, Mr. Baring (of the firm of Baring Brothers), &c., and an average cargo. Shortly after her departure, a gentleman arrived express with the morning papers, containing the overboard mail and settlement of the China dispute; but he was, unfortunately, too late, and complained loudly that Captain Hosken and the directors had previous notification of his intended coming, and had proceeded to wait at home or two for him.

MANCHESTER AND LEADS RAILWAY.—The directors are making good efforts to complete the carrying (goods) arrangements in Manchester. Twelve of the arches are now occupied by various carriers, and fitted up with every convenience to enable them to transmit goods on the line.

SMELTING IRON WITH ANTHRACITE COAL.

[From the report of the directors of the Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County, U.S.]

The important object of smelting iron with anthracite coal, which has lately claimed so much attention, we mentioned in our last report as having been accomplished, and then in successful operation in this place, since which time five other furnaces have been put in blast—viz., one on the Lehigh, near Allentown, one at Phoenixville, one on Roaring Creek, near Cattawissa, and two at Danville. And at Danville two more are already built, that will shortly go into blast; and at Shamokin one stack has been built within the past year, which will soon be put into operation; and we learn that the valley furnace, situated about five miles east of Pottsville, has been rented, and will be put in operation as early as possible the ensuing summer. The number of furnaces using anthracite coal will no doubt be steadily increasing, since it has been satisfactorily settled that there is no difficulty in using this kind of fuel; and the iron, which was apprehended by many would be inferior, has been proved to be of a superior quality, particularly for castings, by possessing more fluidity when melted, and subsequently more compactness, strength, and smoothness.

A series of experiments has lately been performed by Mr. Richard Evans, of Manchester, of the quality of anthracite iron manufactured by the Ystal-y-fers Company, in the Swansea valley.* In comparing the result of his experiments with Messrs. Fairbairn and Hodgkinson's list, he shows a superior strength in favour of anthracite cast-iron of 3½ per cent. He says it is particularly sound, and free from air-holes or defects in casting; and if it is from excess of carbon that iron acquires the several qualities of uniformity, fluidity, smoothness in casting, &c., this metal must be highly charged with it. In ultimate deflection, and power of resisting impact, it also maintains its superiority, and appears to impart great improvement in mixing with inferior ores.

In the report of the committee of judges on iron and steel, in the Franklin Institute of Pennsylvania, we find the following remarks on a specimen of anthracite iron:—"One piece of iron from anthracite pig-metal, from the Crane Iron Works, made into bar-iron at the Bontits Works, with anthracite coal.—This iron is of good quality, and deserves to be particularly noticed, as it goes to establish the fact that good iron may be made with anthracite coal exclusively, and also with a great saving both of metal and fuel; it is stated by the makers, that the whole waste of metal during the conversion does not exceed 12 per cent. Such facts we think are very encouraging to those engaged in making these experiments."

The amount of concurrent testimony throughout the country, sustaining these important facts, must be highly gratifying to all those who are interested in coal lands or coal operations, inasmuch as the manufacture of pig and bar-iron, in our own State, where ore is abundant, and the subsequent conversion of this iron into the various articles required in civilised life, must even very soon consume an immense amount of fuel.

* See Journal of the 22d of August last.

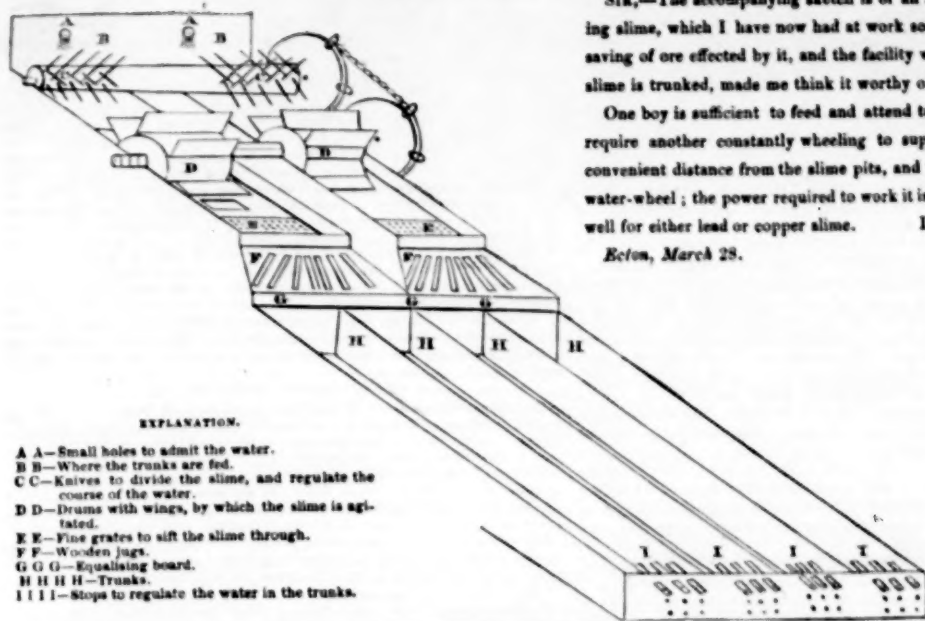
EXPLOSION OF BOILERS.

On Tuesday evening last, at the usual weekly meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, among other papers, there was read an abstract of a paper by Dr. Schaffner, which the author (who was present) illustrated by a small apparatus he had with him, to show that the bottom of the boiler was blown away before the top, in case of an explosion, or rather that the explosive force reached the lower part before the upper, and that therefore "the present safety valve was, in many cases, little better than useless." Mr. Josiah Parkes made many remarks on the doctor's experiments, and generally on the causes of the bursting or explosion of boilers. He gave several extraordinary instances of the different effects of explosions, and argued that there must be different causes to produce those various effects. In some cases the accident resulted from there being no water, or only very little, in the boiler; in others because there was too much; in some because the existing safety valve was closed; in others because it was suddenly opened; and in some cases because there was neither water nor steam in the boiler, nor fire below it. He gave examples, and where the consequences had too often been the sacrifice of lives to a very great extent, as well as the destruction of property. After advertent to the accident on the Norwich river in 1817, which he observed appeared to be one of those events that formed part of the "stock in trade" of every writer on steam-boiler explosions, he adverted to one at Stockport which occurred when there was neither fire, water, nor steam present. In that instance, the stoker had, on the Saturday evening, emptied the boiler of its water by knocking up a plug in the bottom, and thereby extinguishing the fire at the same time. The stoker then left the place without having taken off the plate from the top of the main hole. On the Sunday afternoon, about five o'clock, the unfortunate man went to clean out the boiler. He took the cover from the main hole, placed a lantern he had on the top of the boiler, and descended into it by means of the iron ladder. When he was nearly down, he took the light, and brought it into the boiler, and that instant he was sent up about 100 yards into the air, and fell through the roof of the dyehouse! The boiler rose many feet, and fell back into its seat. The man was scorched as black as a negro. The engineer who entered the yard about the time to see that the stoker was at his work, heard him in the dyehouse exclaiming, "Let me out, let me out, I am frozen to death!" He broke open the door, and the poor fellow ran past him into his own house on the premises, and died that night, after minutely detailing how the accident had occurred. Then (inquired Mr. Parkes), what was the cause of that explosion? It could not have been in the boiler, for if it were the force would have acted on all sides of it equally. Then, where was it? He continued, that for many years he had diligently collected the facts attending every explosion he heard of, and was preparing to put them in such a form as to afford facilities for examination; but, in the mean time, he thought it advisable to direct the attention of practical men to the facts, that they might arrive at the causes of those explosions, and the manner in which the force acted. He afterwards spoke of an immense number of explosions, adding, that in iron works it was known that a single drop of water would produce tremendous explosive power in this manner—if in a puddle furnace a drop of water were placed on the red-hot slag no effect is produced, but if the drop be pressed into the metal with a stick, then it explodes with force sufficient, not only to shatter the furnace, but to blow away the roof of the building. The drop of water could not produce steam sufficient to fill the furnace, so that Mr. Parkes supposed the instantaneous generation of steam from even that small quantity of water produced a wave in the air, which was projected with such force as to destroy everything before it.

MR. ADAMS'S OERERY.—Mr. Adams commenced his popular lectures on Astronomy on Monday last, and will continue them during the ensuing week, at the Adelphi Theatre. The lectures are illustrated with brilliant transparencies and costly moving scenery, by means of which information is imparted in an easy and agreeable manner, and an impression made upon the memory, which it will be almost impossible to forget. To those who have some knowledge from reading of the science, the orery and apparatus will supply what more reading can with difficulty convey; and to persons of both sexes who have not the advantages of a scientific education, and to whom mathematical learning is unknown, they will be found exceedingly useful. The doctrine of the tides, of the eclipses, and of the orbit of the stars and heavenly bodies, are clearly explained by the lecturer, and there is this good feature attending the explanations, that whilst they are sufficiently clear to suit all capacities, they are not made pedantic by the introduction of unnecessary scenery and grotesque representations.

ASTRONOMY.—M. Bessel, a German astronomer, has made one of the greatest discoveries of modern times, by having ascertained the parallax of the double star 61 Cygni. He found, from repeated observations, made from August, 1837, to March, 1840, that the parallax of a Cygni did not exceed 31-hundredths of a second, which places the distance of that star from us at nearly 679,000 times that of the sun, or which is nearly 64,000,000,000,000 miles (or more nearly 65,650,000,000,000 miles). This immense distance can better be conceived when we state, that if a cannon-ball were to traverse this vast space at the rate of twenty miles a minute, it would occupy more than 6,000,000 years in coming from that star to our earth; and if a body could be projected from our earth to 61 Cygni at thirty miles an hour (which is about the same rate as the carriages on railroads travel), it would occupy at least 16,000,000 years. Light, which travels more than 11,000,000 miles in a minute, would occupy about twelve years in coming from that star to our earth.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

IMPROVED MACHINE FOR TRUNKING SLIME.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

EXPLANATION.

- A A—Small holes to admit the water.
B B—Where the trunks are fed.
C C—Knives to divide the slime, and regulate the course of the water.
D D—Drums with wings, by which the slime is agitated.
E E—Fine grates to sift the slime through.
F F—Wooden jugs.
G G G—Equalising board.
H H H—Trunks.
I I I—Stops to regulate the water in the trunks.

ON THE PREVENTION OF EXPLOSIONS IN MINES AND COLLIERIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR,—I think I shall render a service to many of your readers by giving a short review of a work which lately appeared in Belgium. In consequence of the disastrous accidents which had occurred in that country from explosions of fire-damp in the mines, the Academy of Brussels announced as the question for the prize essay, for the year 1840—"To Investigate and Discuss the means of removing from Collieries the Dangers of Explosions;" and the Government offered to stimulate the competitors by an additional grant to the successful candidates of 2000 francs. Several memoirs were handed in, five of which, with the preliminary report of the committee of the academy, and an appendix of the report of the commission sitting at Liège, on safety lamps, are now published, principally at the public expense, and with the view of promoting their circulation among the collieries, sold at a low price. The whole forms an 8vo. vol. of 448 pages.

1. The first memoir is by M. Boisse, ingénieur des mines, at Carmaux. It is an able review of all that has been done, or is known, on the subject of ventilation. The historical record is correct, and the observations generally judicious, and we read it with pleasure and instruction; but yet we rise from the perusal without knowing what practical remedies we would apply in particular difficulties which would occur; it is, therefore, impossible to give an analysis of it. As one criticism, I may remark, that the author attributes too much to the effect of increased or diminished pressure of the atmosphere, as indicated by the rise or fall of the barometer, in affecting the ventilation, and I cannot concur in his proposal for forcing in air instead of aspirating it, in order to increase that pressure. It is as yet dubious, whether, in the case of a fall of the barometer, the deteriorated ventilation is caused directly by the diminished pressure, or whether that fall is merely coincident with other causes which affect the ventilation; and he does not seem to be aware that the difficulty of forcing in air increases with the distance, much more than when it is aspirated.

2. The second memoir, by M. Gonot, ingénieur en chef des mines, at Mons, is a paper of great merit; indeed, it appears to me the most valuable work which has been published in any country (unless, perhaps, that of M. Combes) on the subject of ventilation. The author takes strong and decided views, and states distinct propositions, supporting them with luminous scientific remarks, and facts drawn from his own experience. Although we may occasionally differ from him, we feel even then that he has instructed us, because he has prepared the questions for our consideration; but in general he commands our assent. What he states may be embraced in the following propositions:—1st. The alleged property of diffusion, or the property by which different gases and vapours mingle, independently of their densities and affinities, if it really exist at all, does not so in such a degree and manner that it is to be assumed as a principle in the ventilation of mines. On the contrary, the author concludes, from his observations, that not only carbonated hydrogen will not mingle with the atmospheric air, under the ordinary current which exists in the Belgian mines, but even, after being mingled, will separate, and occupy the higher part of the drifts. He deduces as a corollary from this, that the drifts must be always conducted so that the carbonated hydrogen may ascend, and never contain workings in the shape of a bell or syphon, in the upper part of which the carbonated hydrogen may lodge. I think entirely with the author on this point; at the same time, as the dragging power of the current of atmospheric air depends on its velocity, I conceive that, in an extraordinary case, where it is indispensable that the current descend, by making the drift low, and regular, and the velocity of the current great, the carbonated hydrogen may be made to descend for a short distance.—2d. In mixtures of different gases and vapours, the tension of the mixture will be the united tensions of the elastic fluids mixed, therefore, as the specific gravity will be in the inverse ratio of the tension, the mean specific gravity of two gases, each of which have the specific gravity 1, will not be 1, but considerably less. (There can be no doubt of this in the case of a mixture of vapour with common air, and I shall suppose with the author, that it is generally true). But if these gases, or vapours, are also specifically lighter than air, then the specific gravity of the mixture will be diminished in a still higher ratio. By mixing, then, with air carbonated hydrogen, the specific gravity of which is only a little more than half that of air, or vapour of water, the specific gravity of which, at a temperature of 20 deg. of the centigrade thermometer, is only 1.64th of that of air, we obtain a mixture of even less specific gravity than the mean of the elastic fluids mixed.

Now, the external air is scarcely ever saturated with vapour; in general it is only saturated to the extent of 4-10ths, and sometimes only to the extent of 2-10ths; whereas, before the air, after coursing the works, ascends, it has become fully saturated. It is evident, then, that, supposing the temperature above and below ground to be the same, the puts of the descent and ascent of the air to be equally deep, and the mine to discharge carbonated hydrogen, the mere mixture of the hydrogen and vapour in the mine, by making the ascending column lighter than the descending, is sufficient to cause a current. In winter this effect will be increased by the difference of the temperature above and below ground; and in summer—at least, in great heats of summer—it will be diminished; but, still, even in the greatest heats, it may be sufficient, and, in point of fact, extensive mines near Liège are ventilated in this way alone, without other furnace or mechanical aspiration of the air.

The author having clearly established all this, then inquires what is the best mode of rendering activity to such natural ventilation?—The modes now in use are, 1st, mechanical aspiration. The objection to this is, that only about 1-10th of the force of the mechanical mover has hitherto been utilized; and it is probable that such a loss will always occur—that the quantity of air extracted can never be much increased, because that quantity is in the ratio of the velocity, and the velocity is only as the square root of the power applied, and that the mechanical apparatus renders a pit useless.—2d. The use of a furnace, at the bottom of the pit, as practised in the north of England and the north of France; or a furnace above ground, or near the mouth of the pit, connected with a high chimney, as practised in Belgium. The objection to the latter is, that the column is too short to produce a great effect; to the former, besides the immensity and danger, that the carbonic acid gas (whose specific gravity is 1½ compared with that of common air) formed by the combustion, and a quantity of solid matter in the form of smoke must be raised, both of which counteract the effect of the disengaged heat, M. Gonot proposes, instead of any of these methods in use, to throw down steam from above ground a considerable distance down the pit. As this mode is quite novel, I shall give his own words:—"I think that the most convenient disposition would be the following. I would establish at the surface one or two boilers, and connect with them a pipe of twenty centimetres (eight inches) diameter, which I would place in one of the corners of the pit of the ascent of air, which pipe should terminate near the bottom of the pit, having its lower extremity bent back, so as to give to the issuing vapour an ascending direction. The water condensed might run out by a small hole made for that purpose in the bend of the pipe."

After calculating that 1000 kilogrammes of coal (one ton) would elevate eleven cubic metres of air 20 deg. of the centigrade thermometer, and the expense of pipes to be carried down 200 metres, which he says would in Belgium come to about 5000 francs, and making some obvious observations, the author continues:—"A furnace at the bottom fed by pure air projects into the pit of ascent, air which has not served to ventilate the mine, and carbonic acid gas, which augments the weight of the ascending column; a great part of the heat which it develops becomes latent in the water which it vaporises. It is quite the contrary, when we introduce steam into the air. It occupies at first there a certain volume, which becomes a vacuum when it is condensed; its latent heat becomes sensible, and augments the temperature of the air, and the steam, which is not condensed, augments in an extraordinary degree, by its specific lightness, the velocity of the current. I think, in consequence, that the heating of the air by steam is preferable to all other means hitherto known for giving activity to the circulation of the air in a mine; and I do not hesitate to say that, combined with a proper disposition of the workings, it will nearly render impossible the explosions of carbonated hydrogen in collieries."

Considering the eminent official situation, and high personal character of the author, and that M. Cauby, who is ingénieur des mines en chef over all Belgium, the reporter of the committee, states—"This memoir, if not the most remarkable, is at least the most useful of all which have been presented; and I would not hesitate to award the prize to its author if the Academy did not think with me, that in consequence of the intervening publication of the work of M. Combes, the prize should not be distributed,"—the proposal of M. Gonot is entitled to much attention.

There is another mode of producing the same effect—viz., by throwing down heated air. I have seen an estimate and offer by an engineer of character, to construct an apparatus to heat and throw down, by the power of a 3-horse engine, twenty cubic metres of air, heated by a heating apparatus to 300 deg. of the centigrade thermometer, a depth of 300 metres, in pipes of sheet-iron soldered in brass, of fifteen centimetres (six inches) diameter, with suitable buildings—the whole put up for 6200 francs (about 208l.). It was calculated that the heating apparatus, similar to that used for the hot-blast, would consume 750 kilogrammes (about three-quarters of a ton) per twenty-four hours. There would be in addition the coal for the engine.

The author then lays down another principle, that as the number of victims, in case of an explosion, who suffer from being directly and immediately burned and bruised, is comparatively small with that of those who suffer in consequence of want of respirable air after the explosion, there ought to be no constructions in a mine which an explosion would remove to such a degree as to render the immediate resumption of the ventilation impossible. There should, therefore, be neither trap-doors nor brattices, nor any structure in or at the mouth of the pit which could be displaced. But he is not contented with stating these principles generally, he goes closer and more satisfactorily to work; he furnishes specific plans of workings for the three different sorts of seams—flat seams, seams much inclined, and seams altogether vertical—and shows that in each case the carbonated hydrogen may always ascend, activity being given to the current by steam, and the coal exhausted without trap-doors or brattices. This is valuable, and, I think, solid, information. It is true, the Belgian mines are all conducted on the Shropshire, or long-wall method, by supporting the work behind the hewer; but I do not think that this will make any difference as to the applicability of the principles of M. Gonot, and, in fact, I have seen a plan for conducting the workings in a manner somewhat similar to that, of late introduced by Mr. Nicholas Wood into Springwell Colliery, in the county of Durham, where there are no trap-doors or brattices. The current was to be directed and changed by stoppings.

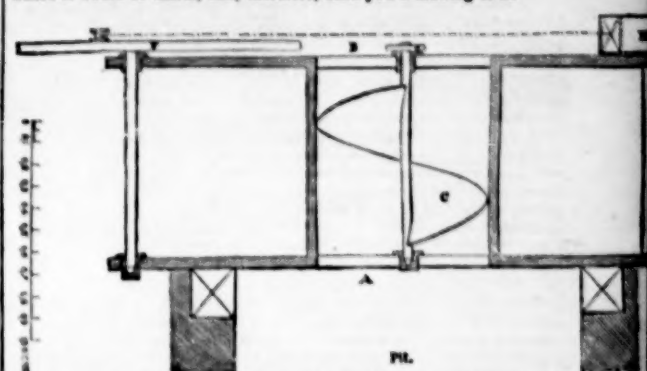
Having passed a strong eulogium on the work of M. Gonot, I may with the more freedom criticise his formulae for ascertaining the velocity of the current. Besides other objections (part of which by implication he allows himself), it is founded on the erroneous base, that the rule laid down by M. D'Aubuisson, in the case where air is forced, may be applied where air is aspirated—an error which is copied from M. Combes. All experiments and observations denote the contrary. It has never been observed in a mine that the velocity of the current is affected by the length of the course, if the aspirating power is a furnace or an air pump; and in experiments made with vacuum pipes above ground, the length of pipe is found to cause no resistance, whereas M. Gonot lays down, that the velocity of the current in a mine is in the inverse ratio of the square root of the length of the course.

3. The next memoir is by M. Buisson, professor of chemistry at Bonn. It is very long and laboured, containing a mass of facts and observations, many of which have been made by the author himself, and which will furnish useful materials for reflection, particularly to those who occupy themselves with the qualities of the gases disengaged in mines, and the properties of the safety lamp.

4. The fourth is by M. Lamielle, of Namur. What is new in it is principally the description of a safety furnace, made on the principle of the safety lamp. It is a furnace fed with coke, and surrounded with wire gauze, which may be lowered down a pit.

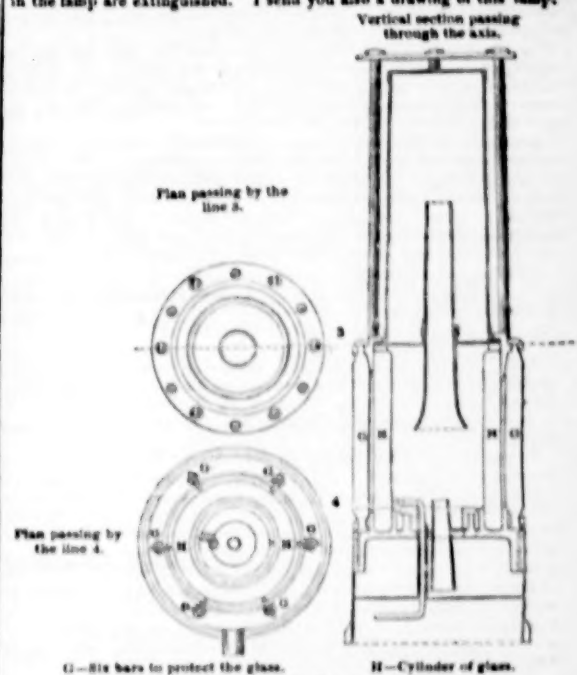
5. The fifth memoir is by M. Motte, of Marchiennes ex Pont. It has for its object, to recommend as a mechanical means of extracting air what he calls an Archimedes screw. It is precisely the same as the screw in the Archimedes steamer. The memoir proposes to propel air with it, but,

when I saw it, it aspirated the air. This memoir excited at first much attention, from the confident assertion of the author, supported by calculations and experiments, that the quantity of force utilized was much greater than in the case of the common air-pump. But experiments, made by order of the Government, subsequent to the publication of the memoir, have shown that such is not the fact; nevertheless, as its cost is small, and it occupies little space, I conceive there may be situations where it would be useful, and, therefore, send you a drawing of it.



A—Inferior part of a cylinder placed vertically in a pit. B—Upper part. C—Screw. D—Valley of screw. E—Seat of steam engine. F—Fly-wheel of engine, furnished with a band, which works on the pulley B.

The Appendix of the Report of the Commission on Safety Lamps is interesting. It presents a new safety lamp—that of M. Musculet—which the Commission consider as uniting in a higher degree than any hitherto tried, the essential qualities of a good safety lamp. In this lamp the air enters not at the bottom, but near the top, and then passes a second time through wire gauze placed transversely. The Commission state, that the effect of this arrangement is, when the air is particularly explosive, to give an extraordinary activity to the flame, which of itself alters the quality of the entering air, by mixing with it a part of the burned gases, so that not only deflagration is prevented, but the parts of the air in ignition in the lamp are extinguished. I send you also a drawing of this lamp.



G—Six bars to protect the glass. H—Cylinder of glass. I remain, Sir, your's, &c., A CONSTANT READER.

London, April 6.

ON MINE SURVEYING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "John Budge," appears determined not to "budge" from the ground upon which he has taken his stand, in reference to mine surveying. When, however, a person is compelled, in support of his own arguments, to give replies to his own questions, it certainly would seem to imply a want of tact in the management of a correspondence of this nature, which I am inclined to think he has discovered, by the plain and simple retort his egotism has brought upon him by the letter in your Journal of the 3d inst., signed "R. Tregaskis," who I know to be a practical man, and fully as capable of understanding the question as "John Budge" can possibly be.

It appears to me that a good deal of time has been thrown away, and a considerable portion of your Journal has been needlessly occupied in discussing questions not at all relevant to the matter, and more particularly in reference to correct work being performed with incorrect instruments.

"John Budge" treats the miner's dial and chain as useless lumber, and as things that should never be used for mining purposes, in the way they have been called into practice by the Captain Billies, and the Captain Jones, and all the captain noodles of the last century; and, if we are to believe his statements, all those who have used them for underground dialling, are as ignorant of the subject as he would lead us to believe the dial to be unfitted to it, and that neither the one nor the other can, in the least degree, be relied upon.

Is "John Budge" aware of the fact, that the very mode he has adopted to depreciate the use of the one, and to lower the abilities of the other, is the strongest proof he could bring forward to prove the very opposite fact, that he would wish should be deduced from it? If it be true that the dial is such a very imperfect instrument, how are we to account for the perfection of the work that has been performed under its use? And if in addition to the imperfection of the instrument we add, that it has been used by a parcel of blunder-headed noodles, how are we to account for the accuracy of the results? Does "John Budge" intend to say that, because blunders may have been committed by the use of the dial and chain, that they should, therefore, be discarded altogether? Is he prepared to prove that no blunders have ever been made in the use of logarithms? He has named one instance of an error committed in a mine in Gwynnny; and I have no doubt that if he were to go through the mining district of the county, and make inquiry, he would find out many more—and what of that? Is there anything so wonderful in it, that it is to be held up to the scorn and ridicule of the world, because it proves that there is not always perfection to be found in the means made use of? But let him also make inquiries on the other side of the question, and honestly acknowledge the work that has been performed by the use of the dial in the hands of those old surveyors, and the instances of accuracy, when compared with those of error, would be as great, as it once to disprove all that he has said against the use of the miner's dial. "Facts are stubborn things," and he who attempts to write against them undertakes a task. I will name one more fact for his consideration.

It is well known—at least by those who are conversant with mining matters, and "John Budge" is not ignorant of it—that the greater portion of the agents of mines are men who have had very little education, but who have been brought up and employed in the mines from their youth—in fact, I may say, that there are very few of them who know anything of mathematics; and yet this is the class of persons who are principally called upon to use this very imperfect instrument, upon occasions of the greatest importance—and they do use it with the greatest accuracy; indeed, with this instrument those persons will commence a new shaft from the surface, and they will also carry on the operations underground,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

ON MINE SURVEYING.

SLAVERY IN THE ANGLO-BRAZILIAN MINES.

A. Shadrinova in the Interview, Vladimir Mikh.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

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BRITISH IRON COMPANY.

writing, with lameness in the latter, was frequently
 in common, the remark "the letter, we might have been written in
 a more correct and consistent manner," it appears to us the style itself precludes
 a chance of error. Now, Mr. Editor, had this opinion been expressed in the
 first place, and you had given both in your relation, it would have been, with
 your deference to yourself, more fair to our credit, as your readers might then
 have decided whether there was a single word not justified by the injury which
 had been inflicted by a highly influential majority behind our back. And, as re-
 sults the style precluding the chance of error, you have occasionally possessed
 under the writer, an unusual opportunity, especially with reference to the Unitarian
 mind system, which is not one-twentieth part of business in effect, or no repre-
 sentation in character, as the case of the British (non-Unitarian). Instead, therefore,
 the style precluding the chance of a reply, the change combined in my letter
 to reach the various set to have commanded immediate public attention, had
 not to myself, and not denigration of character, been the real object of this second
 and severely strict. For these reasons, I again rest on your justice for the
 version of my letter. It only is given to your readers, that those who advocate
 of position the - strict system - never call
 in the *Westminster Journal*.
 I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
 J. W.

[The following lecture was delivered at the Pontypool Mechanics' Institute, by Mr. W. Lewellen, mining engineer, and one of the secretaries of the Institution.]

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EARTH.

Coal is divided into four divisions—viz., *bituminous coal*, so called as it comes out of the mine in cubes; *slate coal*, which very readily splits, but will not shatter break across; *runnel coal*, which breaks in square columns, and burns as a candle; and *stone coal*, or *anthracite*. These are subdivided into a very great number of different kinds, according to the component parts of each.

ANALYSIS OF COAL IN THE SOUTHERN WALESE BASIN

	Coal Yarn.	Bilumen.	Carbon.	Asbest.
Microphyllites	Veins and coal seam per ft.	30	140	44
Conchoidal	At Aberystwyth. Hopleys' discovery.	250	640	20
Conchoidal	Rock vein	280	60	20
Ditto	Meadow vein	270	670	3
Aberystwyth	Rock vein	26	10	2
Ditto	Meadow vein.	270	60	40
Varieg.	Dredging vein	300	40	20
Ditto	Meadow vein	300	600	0
Nantgwyn	Eden vein	15	200	5
Ditto	Dredging vein	17	270	5
Trelogan	Big vein	160	900	3
Ditto	Yard vein	180	970	30
Ditto	Big vein	110	80	3
Ditto	Upper Bear Street vein	130	80	1
Cyfarthfa	Flint road	8	100	1
Ditto	Upper yard vein	110	900	3
Ditto	Yardway vein	8	100	1
Ditto	Big Street vein	8	100	1
	STONE CHALK			
Tydenham	Big vein	7	60	4
Ditto	Brown vein	7	60	4

These results show how various are the proportions of the matters entering into the composition of coal from the same coal field, and also give an analysis of coals of nearly all the iron works in the northern zone of the basin, exhibiting the gradual transition from the highly bituminous to the anthracite.

ENGLISH FUNDS.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

[illegible]

1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383</
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Tons.		Amount.
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300	300	300
400	400	400
500	500	500
600	600	600
700	700	700
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900	900	900
1000	1000	1000

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